

Sketch-Book  
No 44 11

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From June 4<sup>th</sup> 1838  
To December 31<sup>st</sup> 1838 (inclusive)

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Monday June 4<sup>th</sup> Morning fair, Noon do: at  
night cloudy~

Tuesday 5. Morning cloudy with steady rain & warm  
air: at noon sun appeared; afternoon fair with scattering  
clouds. Vegetation looks fine.

The papers state that the upward train of cars from  
Boston to Worcester, burst its boiler near Needham-  
No damage done except to the engine: And why may not  
these engines fail as well as those on board of boats?

Wednesday 6. morning fair; afternoon rain till night

Thursday 7. Morning rainy; Sun out before noon, Showers  
afternoon, and fair at night. air cool.

Friday 8. Morning fair with a brisk Northeaster of cool  
air. Day continued fair, with a few flying clouds.

The Hawaiian Spectator, a Quarterly Periodical conducted by an association of gentlemen at Honolulu Oahu, in the Sandwich Islands, has been received at Boston. The work is said to be well executed, consisting of 100 pages and 10 original artists relating to the habits, manners and morals of portions of the people who inhabit the islands of the pacific ocean. It is gratifying to learn the progress of civilization in those Islands, since their discovery by Capt Cook in 1778. ~~(It is)~~ ~~called~~ ~~by locals~~ Owyhii is said to be about 280 miles in circumference, and here Capt Cook was killed by the natives in 1779: Lat 20°.,17' N. Long 15°5..58 west from Greenwich (that is the north point of the island)

Steam  
Boat  
on Lake  
George }

Lake George A new Steam Boat is to commence running on the Lake on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June. Whether the owners will reap profit from it is a little doubtful. Parties who wish to explore the lake and visit the islands for fishing, will no doubt find the Boat convenient; but the travel from the Hudson ~~will~~ to Canada, or to the northern part of Lake Champlain, will generally proceed through Whitehall. An excursion on Lake George will, however, be very inviting.

Saturday 9 Morning fair and thin clouds, sometimes covering the sun, part of the day; southerly winds and moderate air: an increase of heat towards evening.

Sunday 10 Morning fair and calm- afternoon warm, air indeed hot thermo. at 93 and very few clouds; light westerly wind at sundown not a cloud to be seen.// From the quantity of aqueous matter raised into the atmosphere during so warm a day, we might expect clouds would be formed. But since this was not the case, we must suppose there was an equilibrium in the atmosphere; and were any small portion of it to receive a quantity ~~portion~~ of cold air, probably we should soon perceive clouds forming in that portion ~~of it~~. This equilibrium of the atmosphere cannot continue long; for when the air is heated near the earth and rendered light by rarefaction, ~~there must~~ ~~be~~ a discent of the cold air of the upper regions ~~by the laws of pneumatics~~, and a rushing in of the distinct colder air must take place as appears from the laws of pneumatics.

On turning to the letters of Dr. Franklin on Electricity I find he advances a similar opinion {——}. He says “When there is great heat on the land, in a particular region (the Sun having shone on it perhaps several days, while the surrounding countries have

have been [ ] by clouds) the lower air is rarified and rises, the cooler dense rain above descends, the clouds in that air mat from all sides, and join over the heated place; and if some are [ ], others not, lightning and thunder succeed, and showers fall Hence thunder gusts after heats, and cool air after gusts; the water and the clouds that bring it, coming from a higher and therefore a cooler region.”

Under the expectation that clouds would form in the night, I watched the atmosphere, and about 9 oclock in the evening a cloud of considerable extent was seen rising over our vast mountain, giving frequent flashes of lightning, but no rain followed. About 4 oclock in the morning I noticed some clouds about the meridian though not of great extent.

Monday 11 Morning fair with a southerly wind; at noon very few clouds seen and they from the west, or S.W. and a brisk wind in that direction; hot day Ther.=93, maximum.

During the afternoon some cumulus clouds passed south of us, threatening a shower; and soon after sun set an extensive cloud appeared in the west, of the  
stratus

stratus form, excepting at the northern extremity, which partook of the cumulous, and here constant flashing of lightning was seen, while none was perceived in the other part, though the whole cloud appeared continuous; no rain followed.

Tuesday 12. Morning fair, with some thin clouds, and westerly wind, increasing as the sun approached the meridian, the day hot but rather less so than yesterday. At three P.M. a shower from SW, but very little thunder, the clouds spread over the whole horizon; wind brisk: after shower a calm, and evening clear.

A St. Louis Paper (Missouri) gave the following information to emigrants from the eastern states.

Freight of loading to different places

From N.Orleans to St. Louis, \$0.40 to 1.00 per hundred weight

- “ N. Orleans to Galina 1.00 to 1.50
- “ Pittsburg to St Louis .50 to .75
- “ Do to N. Orleans .75 to 1.00 to Galina the same
- “ St. Louis to Galina .37 ½ to .75
- “ Do to head of Ill. River 50 to 1.75
- “ Philadelphia to Pittsburgh 1.00

Variable according to height of water & number of boats in port!

### Passages in Cabin

From Pittsburgh to St Louis	\$15 to 25
“ Do to Galina	25 to 30
“ N. Orleans to St. Louis	30 to 50
“ Do to Cincinnati	50 to 75
“ Do to Pittsburgh	60 to 80

The lists contain the minimum and maximum rates, and the prices rarely, if ever, exceed them.

to those who wish to send furniture goods &c from N York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, to Missouri and Illinois, it is recommended to ship them via N. Orleans, as less liable to damage~

### Irritable State of our Northern Frontier

On the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult. the British steam Boat, Sir Robert Peel was boarded near Clayton, a town on the south bank of the St. Lawrence, by a body of armed men, supposed to be refugees from Canada, set on fire and consumed. this act produced great excitement on the Canada side of the river, and the Gov. of the state of N York took steps to detect the offenders and several have been arrested.

On the 2d instant the American boat the Telegraph of

of Oswego, reached Brockville, about 9 oclock in the evening, landed passengers & took others on board. A mob had collected at the wharf which induced the Capt. to suspect mischief was intended. Leaving the wharf he was soon hailed & ordered to "come to"; and on refusing to obey about 20 muskets were discharged into his boat, but he continued his motion and escaped; several balls entered the Ladies Cabin, but none were hurt.

Will our government suffer such an extended ~~line of~~ frontier to remain without a line of posts, garrisoned by regular troops, which the British have a good body of troops, at every important post of their frontier? But where shall we look for our regular force? We have not enough to guard our frontier posts, and our militia are in fact nothing. What stupidity in our rulers! Our peace establishment demands an immediate increase, at least to 12,000 men; to which add 100,000 select militia, to be armed by government, and trained in the field say two weeks, at least, annually, and we should be safe from foreign invasion, as well as internal commotion. But we look in vain to our present Congress for any efficient defence of our Country. They have other employment.

Wednesday 13. Fair morn; mid day many cumulus clouds, and air agreeably warm; westerly breeze, afternoon warmer and a shower from west, the rain copious, with some thunder.

After such hot weather, it is remarkable that the shower of yesterday & this day should have been attended with so little thunder. I suggest the following as a clue to an explanation.

When evaporation from the earth is copious, may not the aqueous vapor be so diffused in the atmosphere as to prevent a coacervation of electricity, and thus keep up an equilibrium, which would not be the case when the atmosphere is dry? In experiments with the electrical machine we find that in a very moist atmosphere the excitation is feeble & sometimes scarcely perceptible. In this case the electricity is given off to the air as fast as collected from the engine, and the prime conductor shows little, or no accumulation of electricity; and may not a cloud charged with electricity, or coming into a moist atmosphere, gradually part with its charge in the same way. In very dry weather the insulation of the cloud is complete, and it give off its charge, at once, on



approaching within striking distance of a conductor.

If these suggestions be well founded, we may look for the most violent shocks of lightning after a dry time.

After the copious fall of rain this afternoon, we expected a lower temperature of the air, but this did not follow; the evening was warm and flashes of lightning occurred.

The season now ~~thus far~~ resembles old summers in many particulars; though our showers are dissimilar in their form and point of rising, coming generally from the S.W. instead of NW. and presenting less of the cumulus effect.

Thursday 14. Morning foggy- 8'oclock Sun out; at 11 o'clock a shower from the west, a considerable rain, but little thunder. Afternoon hot air and westerly wind; sky deep blue, and many cumulus clouds passing. At sun set a very clear horizon calm and hot.

The Legislature of Indiana has incorporated a Company to construct a Rail Road from Terre Haute (about 8 miles) to the Illinois line, to connect with the road to Paris, now constructing by son Arthur Capital stock 250,000 Dollars. Road to be commenced within 5 years. This road will connect the Wabash and Erie Canal, with the road by Paris & Shelbyville to Alton, on the Mississippi; and when

that, and the Wabash and Erie canal is completed, will be the grand route from the northern states, via Buffalo, to the central parts of Illinois and Missouri, and up the Missouri River to the western regions, and Oregon Country.

Friday 15. Morning foggy, but of short duration. At noon brisk SW wind and cumulus clouds. Air hot. Sun set the clouds put on the cirro-cumulus appearance, with indications of a shower in the N. West, but no rain followed.

Saturday 16 Morn fair, but soon partially cloudy & cool southern wind: at noon clear and hot. Afternoon fair and strong breeze. Towards sun set, the clouds cirro stratus, and the lowest, of the cumulous form.

Sunday 17. Morn over spread with clouds: Sun out by nine o'clock. Wind southerly. Afternoon wind varied to the west, attended with cirro stratus clouds & some cumulo masses and at sundown masses of clouds Hot day.

During the past week the weather has been hot and the crops have pushed on rapidly, especially Indian corn, and grass appears fine, and all promising~ Last summer the month of June was cool, up to the last day, when summer heat commenced & continued a

few days, and then rather cool, through most of the summer. Contrary to late observations the west wind at this time seems to have little effect in cooling the air

Monday 18 Morn, sky overspread with Cumulo stratus clouds and attended with N.E. wind: about 11 oclock AM sun out, air moderate: most of afternoon overspread & very agreeable air At sun set cool.

Tuesday 19 Morn fair & cool mid day clear with very few clouds air moderate. Afternoon very clear, southerly wind and the temperature increasing.

By the Fort Wayne Sentinel (Indiana) of the 2d of June, sent to me by some person unknown it appears that regular canal packets are running from that fort down the Wabash route to Logansport. A freight boat also runs on the same route for the purpose of carrying goods which cannot conveniently go in the packets. Boats are filled up to run on the Maumee eastward, to fort Defiance whence a lands stage proceeds down the River to Lake Erie. Several forwarding companies are found at Fort Wayne, by whom baggage may be transported from the Lake to the Wabash- The Ohio part of the Maume canal is finished  
and

and Indiana complains of the tardiness of Ohio, and some think the latter does not intend to complete her Maume section. Perhaps she has an eye to her central canal, which she must know will lose much of the western travel & transportation, the moment the Wabash and Erie canal is finished. The valley of the Wabash is said to be a fine agricultural Country, remarkable for its extensive intervals bordering on the river, a stream rather longer/larger than the Connecticut and navigable for steam boats high up, excepting low water, {—} at the rapids near the mouth of white river coming from Indiana; and these rapids are now being removed, or obviated, by a Dam and locks. When the Canal up the Maume and down the Wabash to Fayetteville shall be completed this valley will be better known by people in this part of the Country, and no doubt, will invite our emigrants as powerfully as now do the lands in Illinois, Missouri, & Wisconsin.

Vincennes, an old French settlement on the Indiana side of the Wabash, 100 miles from its mouth, is said to contain 300 [ ] situated contiguous to a meadow of 5,000 acres, cultivated as a common field; settled by the French from Canada, about the beginning of the last century.

~~Tuesday 20~~ Wednesday 20 Morning fair, cool, and brisk southerly wind

Afternoon fair, Sundown Cirro-stratus clouds

nearly cover the sky. Air moderate through the day:

Thursday 21. Morning clouded, but soon became brisk

and southerly winds Noon clear; air moderate and agreeable;

at Sun set cirro-stratus clouds in the west.

By an act of the Legislature passed April 14, 1838, a part of Conway was set off to Buckland, including a tract of five or six acres owned by William Russell and myself. Viz “All that part of the town of Conway in the County of Franklin, which lies within the following bounds, viz—Beginning at a stone monument on the bank of Deerfield River, being the N.W. corner of Conway; thence south 14 degrees west, 393 rods to a stake; thence East 1 degree north to Deerfield river; thence on said river to the place of beginning, is hereby annexed to and made a part of the town of Buckland.” This act to take effect from and after its passage.

Now I ask the Legislature what is to be understood by the above description “Beginning at a stone monument &c. the northeast corner of Conway” and running S 14° {—}

393 rods to a stake.” Is this course by the true or magnetic meridian, and does it coincide with the old line between Conway and Buckland? The difference between the magnetic and true meridian is about 8 degrees and it is important that it should be known which is intended. “This loose mode of description is too often adopted by our Legislature, and it would seem that the members are unacquainted with the fact that the two meridians differ essentially. When I was in the Legislature I pointed out to the house the importance of a designation of the meridians, and procured amendments of several bills. Such inaccuracy is a stain upon our scientific pretensions!

This day the sun reaches the tropic of cancer, and of course, his greatest north Declination =  $23^{\circ}-27'-43''$ ,9 at mean noon, Greenwich: And Co. Lat + Decl. = meridian Alt. =  $70^{\circ}-55'$ (+) Sun's amplitude at setting  $32^{\circ}-42'$  north (pr. Sphere Trigonometry) Apriori we might now look for the hottest weather, but this does not generally take place until the month of July, or August, the effect being in the rear of the cause, like the tides of the ocean, which do not come to their greatest elevation until after the moon culminates.

Friday 22. Morn Fair and calm. At noon a NW Shower and brisk wind, no thunder that I perceived. Air hot Afternoon fair calm and warm.

Our farmers have commenced haying; grass pretty good, but hardly ready for the sythe. Indian corn is forward, and rye rather large, though a little of a sickly hue in the leaf, partaking of a yellow color, which some think indicates a blight.

Saturday 23. Morn fair, at noon very clear sky and small breeze & moderate temperature. Afternoon numerous cirro-stratus clouds, partaking of the nimbus. Shower in the evening with some lightning.

Sunday 24. Morn cloudy rain last night South wind. An A.M. Sun out. Afternoon sun generally covered with nimbus clouds, and a moderate temperature of the air prevailed through out the day. Some rain fell.

Monday 25 Morn cloudy Sun out at 9 oclock A.M. at noon cirro-cumulus clouds, numerous- At 1 o'clock P.M. a shower from the west, without thunder. At Sun set very clear and pleasant the air mild.

#### Indian Relics Implements.

The following Implements found by workmen, at and old Indian site, near the point of the eminence northerly of Jones Grist mill

were presented to me a few days since. Viz. Two tobacco pipe bowls & several stems, a triangular arrow spike of brass, a small plate of copper and another of brass ornamented, and the spiral termination of a small conch-shell. These articles must have been obtained from Europeans, after they settled in this Country, probably in exchange for furs. Trading stations no doubt were found at Springfield and Westfield after the Pequot war; Albany also might have been another mart. After that war the Pocumtuck, or Deerfield, Indians descended the Connecticut with 50 canal loads of Indian corn, and disposed of these at Windsor and Hartford. In return probably they received European fabrications, and trinkets suited to their taste. At the close of Philip's war, in 1676, the Indians left this part of the Country to the English. In time of peace small parties sometimes resided in the vicinity, but no permanent residences were seen here after that period.

Many implements have been found at the old stations of the natives in this vicinity, fabricated from stone; these probably were in use before this intercourse with Europeans. In what manner they shaped these tools to the requisite forms is difficult to explain; many of them must have cost much labor as well as skill. The New England Indians were



sometimes at War with tribes on the Mohawk and severe battles ~~often~~ occurred. Tradition informs us that the latter attacked a strong fortification on fort hill, about half a mile NE of our brick meeting house, and were beaten off; and that on the retreat of the Mohawks, they were overtaken by the victors in our north meadow, when a severe action took place, in which the Mohawks repulsed the pursuers followed them back to the fort and carried it after a severe slaughter. The story is not very well authenticated; but that the hill was occupied as a fortified ~~defensive~~ station, is evident from various appearance & the many implements found on it, even in my time.

The singular terraces circumscribing our valley, afforded many favorable sites for Indian lodges, and besides those mentioned, several ~~others~~ are known. They were generally situated on elevated points contiguous to sharp ravines their angle which small streams were found, entering the valley. When the valley was covered with water, which must have been the case before the passage through the green tone ridge below Cheapside bridge was cut down to its present level, the lodges of the Indians were on the margin of the lake, and as the lake subsided probably they selected lower positions & perhaps the site of our village was one.

Tuesday 26 Morn fair & cool. Wind S. West Afternoon  
wind NW, brisk, and clear air. Clouds cirro stratus.

more Steamboat disasters!

The Steam boat Pulaski bound from Charleston to  
Baltimore burst her boiler in a storm, about 40 miles to the  
southward of Wilmington, on the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> instant  
and a large number of passengers (some say about 200) were  
lost: about 20 escaped in a small boat. The [     ] boat  
sank within an hour after the explosion.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> instant the Steam boat Washington took fire  
on her passage from Cleveland to Detroit & was consumed &  
from 40 to 50 passengers lost. These with others are severe taxes on human  
life for half a season! How many will be added to  
the list before the close, we know not. Will prudent  
men much longer venture themselves on board of these boats

Enough has transpired to prove them ~~boats~~ highly dan  
gerous in their present form & machinery; and unless  
they can be rendered more safe they should be laid  
aside. These heart rendering scenes should no longer  
be tolerated. We look to Congress to remedy the evil;  
but this may not be within their ingenuity or pow  
er. The truth is, the application of so tremendous

a force as that which is requisite to work a heavy vessel by steam, cannot safely be trusted.

Ships it is true, now cross the atlantic by the power of steam; but who believes they are as secure as those worked by sails. This mode of navigation probably will be extensively adopted, with what will be called improved machinery, and the consequence probably will be, the loss of a vast number of people who may venture on board these vessels. For, as I have remarked, there cannot be safety where so tremendous a force is applied. The peculiar advantages of steam navigation will be found on large rivers, and particularly in working against their currents. But in navigating the wide ocean we had better trust to winds and sails, and protracted voyages.

Wednesday 27 Morn fair and calm – Air cool. Afternoon thin nimbus clouds, sometimes covering the sun.

Thursday 28. Morn rainy discontinued a few hours & then recommenced. At 4 PM Sun out. much rain fell. Day cool

A writer in a Boston paper proposes to form Anti Steam-Boat Societies. As legislation is not prepared to  
act

act on the subject of steam boats, he thinks public opinion and public combination must be resorted to for a corrective." It would only be necessary to agree to take no risk of traveling by steam, until a corrective be found and well tested, unless on occasion of great urgency; and never until then, to use such conveyances for more pleasure. If the rich, says he, have all the regard for humanity and morals they pretend to, let them set the example and refuse to patronize steam-power until it is made safe. They can travel as they please. Now let us see our roads covered with private carriages, and our beautiful country penetrated in every direction scattering superfluous wealth, and gaining useful knowledge until it may please steam speculators to show some regard for the public safety." Those hints are judicious, and will be regarded by prudent men, while the inconsiderate will continue their reckless course; and when misfortune and misery come, charge them to Providence.

Friday 29. Morn fair, and the day throughout air moderate. Received a letter from Arthur dated Paris June 17<sup>th</sup>. P. marked 19<sup>th</sup> transit 10 days. States that he has made

a Report to the Illinois Commission of 44 pages, This probably includes synoptic tables and diagrams~ wrote a letter to Simeon Borden, our Geodesic Surveyor, by Mr. Boutelle recommending the bearer as an assistant surveyor. This young man, of 24 years, has resided in this town about a year, during which time he has been engaged in the study of those branches of mathematics appertaining to the Engineer and has joined much practice with his study. A plan he has delineated of our north meadows, street, and homelots, as far south as the southern extremity of the street, upon the most accurate principles abundantly attest his skill and ingenuity. His quickness and facility in calculations are remarkable; and I have seldom seen a student so ready in seizing on methods of solving problems, even where they are intricate. With a little more field practice he will make a good engineer: In his mathematics, little or nothing is wanting. Saturday 30. Fair morn. Southerly wind. Afternoon Cumulo stratus clouds, condensing and assuming the nimbus character. Late in the afternoon a small shower occurred, with a general spiral nimbus clouds.

Examining a piece of corn in a neighbors garden, I find may  
hills

hills of the corn tasseled out; and was informed that the tassels might be seen about 5 or 6 days before. The seed was from Vermont and of an early sort, but not of a [     ] kind. On viewing a piece of wheat, contiguous, I find many heads a mass of smut, while the greatest portion are bright and promising. Can this smut be the result of the warm week which commenced the 10<sup>th</sup> instant?~

Suicide A young man, Alonzo Wells, born in this town a son of the late Quartus Wells, this morning put an end to his life at Greenfield, by a deep incision of his throat. He had been in mercantile business at New York City and it is said, had become embarrassed in his affairs. By some witness found on him, it appears, he had been resolved in the measure for some time. Had made a tour from N York to the north ward and was on his way to Deerfield to see his brother and sisters. Stopping at Mr. H. Newcombs brother in law, for ~~the night~~ a day or two and taking his breakfast in the morning, he went to the barn and committed the fatal deed.

Do cases of this kind ever occur, without a degree of mental derangement? I think not. The derangement may not be perceptible, yet the reasoning power wholly invested

in one point, leading to wrong conclusions. Instances of this kind often occur. The fact is better known than the cause. Dr. Rush on the Diseases of the mind, is an able ~~treatise~~ Essay towards a development of the maladies to which the human faculties are liable.

Among the diseases of the mind the Dr treats of Hypocondriasis or tristimania, which he calls a partial derangement of the intellect, as the most common; and when it partakes of despair it often leads to premeditated suicide. This disease though it sometimes proceeds from the loss of property or reputation is often from imaginary evils which the patient thinks await him.

For the cure of Tristimania the Doct. prescribes remedies under the following heads~

1. Such as are intended to act directly upon the body
2. Such as are intended to act directly upon the ~~mind~~ body, through the medium of the mind.

Under the former, medicines, bloodletting, baths and diet are included; under the latter means of diverting the mind from its [ ] bent; sometimes by deception; at others by humoring the whim of the patient, traveling and diversions. But all means sometimes fail.

Sunday July 1. The day cloudy & calm; with fog and slight rain; air moderate.

The unfortunate young man, A.Wells, was entombed in the afternoon, after a sermon adopted to the occasion, by our Clergyman Mr Fessenden. The scene was solemn and impressive, and all lamented the untimely fate of their hitherto respectable townsman. His age 29 years.

When we witness such scenes, we lament the frailty of man, and in the present case cannot willingly impute turpitude to the sufferer, believing that he acted under a derangement of intellect.

Monday 2. Morn cloudy with thunder. Cleared off before 9 o'clock; southerly wind At 1 o'clock P.M. a small broken shower from the West, followed by many cumulo stratus clouds Warm day, thermo. nearly 90 (maximum)

Note My Journal commenced last year on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, and entries are made ~~have been~~ for each day since, but with out great minuteness, or a thermometer, except occasionally to show the extreme temperature Notice of the most remardable events have been inserted, with such remarks as presented to my mind; and they have been made without much method, care in the style



or choice of words. "Such writings" says Dr Abercrombie, "need not be made at first with any great attention to method, but merely put aside for future consideration, and in this manner, the different departments of a subject will develop and arrange themselves as they advance in a manner equally pleasing and wonderful"

Inquiries concerning Intellectual Powers

Tuesday 3. last evening a thunder shower from the west, attended with frequent lightning, but little rain, this morning fair with pleasant air from the west  
Day fair throughout, and few clouds & rather warm

Thoughts on Climate By Charles Caldwell M.D.  
from the monthly Journal of Medicine of 1823. (Hartford, Conn.)

In this paper the Doctor attempts to show why a change of climate is so generally prejudicial to the health of immigrants  
He remarks that the native productions of all distant trails of country, differ very strikingly in appearance, constitution and character, and that this difference arises from differences of climate. From this controlling influence man himself is not exempt. He feels it not only in his  
aspect

aspect, his stature his strength, but in his constitution his temperament, and predisposition to disease. Not confined to impressions on his exterior, it finds its way into the utmost parts of him. Moulded each by the power of his climate, the man of the north, even in our own Country, differs materially from the man of the south, the native of the mountains from the native of the valley and the plain, and the inhabitants of the eastern from those of the western section of the union. Perceptible now, this difference will be much more striking hereafter, when on our native inhabitants climate shall have produced, in the different sections of the country, the maximum of its impression.

The Dr advises the following precautions for emigrants. "Let them who would escape the diseases whether of the north or south, practice temperance, and protect the skin by suitable clothing against the agency of humidity and cold. Let them further avoid unnecessary exposure, fatigue and all excesses, excepting those several measures to the peculiar character of the situation where they reside, and should they  
not

not succeed in averting disease from a change of climate, they cannot fail to waken its force.”

When epidemic diseases prevail the Dr says: “It is usual during their prevalence, to adopt some peculiar ~~remedy~~ regimen, but it is yet to be decided whether abstinence or high living is more likely to be efficacious, or rather most likely to be injurious. More extended experience will probably establish the correctness of the following observations.”

“During the prevalence of an epidemic disease, any material change of whatever description it may be, in diet, regimen, or habit, is attended with hazard. It unsettles the system, if it does not actually debilitate it, and renders it more susceptible of morbid impressions. It is like suddenly unsettling the condition of the constitution or, altering in the very face of the enemy, the structure of a fortification, which, while the process is going forward, is necessarily weakened, and invites an assault.”

I am induced to believe Dr Caldwell is correct in his advice, and all that can be prudently done when epidemics prevail, is to continue the usual diet and habits

provided they have been favorable in time of usual health. If any variation is adopted let the diet be simple and food taken in moderate quantities, which is at all times necessary for uniform health. Adult people who have observant, generally know what diet and exercise are the most conducive to their health, and perhaps they cannot do better, in time of sickness, than to adhere to their common practices.

Sections of country lying under the same latitude and at equal elevations above the level of the ocean, we might naturally suppose would not materially differ in their temperature, and perhaps this generally holds true; but it is found that the purity of the atmosphere, in distant places in the same latitude, differs essentially, and this is supposed to be owing to the difference in the nature of their [ ]

In a country covered with extended woods, we may look for a state of the air differing from that in an open country. Hence where extensive prairies covered with vegetation exist ~~abound~~, and no stagnant waters are found, we should expect to find air nearly as pure as in old settlements. But where

this is not found to be the case, some other cause must be sought to account for the difference; and they are generally local.

If it be true, as Dr Caldwell asserts, that “the man of the north, differs materially from the man of the south, the native of the mountains from the native of the valley and the plain, and the inhabitants of the eastern from those of the western section of the union, then the effects of a small change of ~~the atmosphere~~ Country may be explained; and it would seem to follow that the immigrant from the plains should seek for plains, and those from mountainous regions for high countries, even among the immigrants from New England.

In mountainous countries I believe it will be found, on careful observation that the temperature is rather lower than in those of the same latitude which are very level, both in the summer & winter seasons, though for a short time, in a calm day, the valleys may be found warmer. The mountains no doubt have an effect in producing a descent of the air of the upper regions, by destroying the equilibrium of the heat in the atmosphere. The winds however of a level country may be uniform in one that is mountainous. Canada By

### Canada

By the news papers we learn that the disturbances in the Canadas have not wholly subsided. A bandits under one Johnson, a desperate fellow, now occupy stations on the Thousand Islands in the St. Lawrence, between lake Ontario and Montreal, and are making depredations on British property; but as the British government have a strong regular force in their Provinces, no danger is apprehended. Our government are acting in concert with the British, by sending their spare companies and recruits to the frontiers, these being its only disposable force. What a provident nation we are! Congress begin to talk of an increase of our army but the puerile notion of the efficiency of our militia may defeat the plan. The want of a select militia, under good discipline, is now obvious to all but the blind. As a military nation we are a mere nullity.

Wednesday 4. Morn fair. meridian, cumulus clouds southerly breeze and hot air. Afternoon a westerly shower of rain, with thunder (slight)

As an evidence that society is improving among us, it may be noted that our people are engaged in gathering their hay, instead of celebrating the day of our national birth

in drinking, carousing and other pernicious practices. In no way can we truly evince our love of independence but in the practice of industry and economy. When a people adhere to these virtues independence will follow in course, society be calm, and liberty safe. When party measures are to be promoted, fourth of July celebrations are fruitful sources to ~~produce~~ increase their growth.

I am informed by a neighbor, that yesterday he noticed his corn to be in the silk, (in his garden)

Thursday 5 Morn foggy, and cloudy-sun out, 10 oclock southerly wind. Afternoon thin nimbus clouds cover the sun, occasionally, at 7 PM a shower from SW with lightning. A hot day~

Died at Charlestown last Sunday, Col. Loami Baldwin a noted Civil Engineer (of a paralysis). He superintended the construction of the navy yards at Charlestown and Norfolk. In his private life he sustained an amiable and excellent character. His engineering skill was of the first order, and had been perfected by visiting and examining the great works in Europe. The public will regret his loss, and science weep its deprivation.

Friday 6 Morn fair, very clear and cool air west wind a fine pleasant day, with a few stratus clouds. (elevated) & a few cumulus ones at a lower altitude.

By the Paris Illinois Statesman we learn, that the Commissioners on Rail Roads, at a meeting at Vandalia June 4<sup>th</sup> have concluded to put under contract two miles, including the heavy work, upon the Embarrass River, upon the central branch rail road between Shelbyville and Terre Haute. east of Charleston in Cole's County. This adds two miles to the 36 already contracted for in the Eastern Engineering District under the charge of my son Arthur. Some of the sections are said to be nearly ready for laying down the superstructure of timber and rails, and shows that the construction of rail roads on prairies is a light undertaking compared with hilly wooden countries. The price per month of common laborers, from 16 to 18 dollars. It is contemplated that within 5 years the whole system of internal improvements will be entirely completed, if left to go on undisturbed Other contracts are to made in other Districts.

The grading of the roads through prairies, where there is no timber nor rock cuttings, cannot be very expensive.



Saturday 7. Morn fair and cool and calm. At meridian a westerly wind and cirro stratus clouds. The day very pleasant a nearly clear throughout.

This day James Harvey directly from Illinois called on me, on his return to Canada. He describes the land in the state as excellent, but from disagreeable unpropitious circumstances which occurred there, he was induced to return- thinks the northern part of the state preferable, on account of water, though timber is rather scarce.

Sunday 8 Morn fair & calm; 1 PM thin cirro stratus clouds & hot, & southerly breeze. At 4 PM air very calm and warm, but no indications of showers through the day.

Monday 9. Morn fair, southerly breeze & warm. Clouds cirro stratus in the afternoon, wind west (gently) & Thermometer 92+ and no appearance of showers. In the evening a cumulus cloud appeared in the west, but soon dissipated. a hot night followed

Tuesday 10 Morn overspread with thin clouds and the air calm. Sun out in forenoon & hot wind SW. Afternoon Cumulus clouds. Ther.=92. Sunset clouded over & {—} lightning in evening incessant but distant

Wednesday 11 Morn fair, warm, wind southerly.

At noon many thick cirro cumulus clouds. Wind afternoon, veined to west & blew brisk rendering the air less oppressive. Yet the day hot  
By a letter from Daughter Isabelle, at Boston, I learn that my daughter, Adeline, has, for sometime, been afflicted with an internal difficulty, indicating a collection of water in the cavity of the chest. By the close attention of Dr Biglow her attendant physician for four weeks, she seems now to be amending; but I think it not very probable she will further regain her health. She seems to be rather worn down with the care of children, and has now the additional task of an infant son. It would be gratifying to my wishes, could she spend the remainder of her days in the country, removed from the heterogeneous air of a crowded city, and the bustle of an overgrown population, where the beauty and harmony of nature are enjoyed in a much less ~~higher~~ degree, than in the wide spread country, where the hills mountains, grass, lawns, open fields, ponds & rivers, offer scenes to the eye of the calm and reflecting man, for [     ] the artificial objects found in dense cities. Cupidity may prefer the latter; but the calm philosopher will ever choose the former as his home.

A residence of few miles from a populous City maybe eligible; but there some inconveniences may be felt from the corruptions and depravity of its miserable dregs, who prey upon the property of the industrious and peaceable man.

This day the House for the public worship of the party, call  
ing themselves the orthodox or evangelical party Church raised was raised,  
 on the north side of ~~the~~ our Academy lane. It is intended as a  
 place for the worship of the [ ] God instead of the one  
 holy Being, as described in the Scriptures. This dogma  
 is now discarded by the enlightened part of the com  
 munity, and will be known to futurity, as one of the  
 singular corruptions that had its rise in the dark ages of the mind.  
~~[ ]~~ The attempts now made to continue it, ill suit the enlight  
 ened age in which we live; and evince to say the least a blind obstinacy  
 in some of our clergy, who endeavor to support it among  
 their easy followers. Were its absurdity its only objection  
 we might submit to it with less disgust, but its direct  
 tendency to ~~prevent~~ keep the enlightened and unbiased mind from embracing  
 [ ] more consistent with scripture and philosophy.

Some other dogmas in orthodoxy are not much less  
 absurd. Let us ~~Let us [ ] our Country on the increase~~  
 of ~~[ ] who repudiate such [ ] & [ ]~~.

Among this party are some honest minded men, who with a more extended research into ecclesiastical history, and less reverence of pretended spiritual guides and certain institutions claiming to be patrons of literature and men of science, yet whose efforts, in fact, tend directly to keep the minds of its pupils enveloped; the fog of ancient absurdities, might assume a standing ~~tion~~ in society worthy of the dignity of rational beings.

In admitting this, truth demands that we make some exceptions, which we do with regret. One of the principal leaders of the party, is a man who must be designated as a ~~fanatical~~ blind enthusiast, and a [ ] in a well regulated society. With great pretensions to the Christian character, ~~he possesses~~ and spiritual knowledge, he possesses a violent passion & heart of zeal which in the language of the Irish orator, Charles Phillips applied to a Bigot! no philosophy can humanize, no charity soften, no religion reclaim, no miracle convert. But I will not say with the Orator, that the man is “a monster, who rid with the fires of hell, and ~~bend~~ bending under the crimes of Earth; [ ] his murderous oliv  
vanity

vanity upon a thrown of skulls; and would gladly feed even with a brother's blood the cannibal appetite of his rejected altar."

One specimen of his strange aberration of mind should be known. During the late noble ~~just~~ excitement against free masonry for its horrible murder of William Morgan at Niagara, this man, claiming to be a freemason, in conversation with me, while he pretended to regret the murder of the victim to Masonic wrath, declared ~~to me~~ in unequivocal language, that the abduction of the man was just, and that he only regretted that his brethren of the craft failed to convey him down the St. Lawrence to Montreal or Quebec, and put him on board a British armed ship where he could have been held in duress. More over, on stating to him that his brother, Master mason's in Vermont, his former place of residence, were generally bound by their Masonic oath, to vote for a brother, at elections in preference to one who was not, provided their qualifications were equal, he admitted the fact, and held it as strictly just and proper. And this is the man who, under the influence & aid our orthodox Clergy in this vicinity, is to correct, the theology of Deerfield (as {—}{—}) To

To aid in this laudable measure, the house now erecting is to be completed with all possible speed, at the expense of the [ ] and such supplies of money as have been and may be collected from the unco good of the orthodox in all parts of the state, and throughout New England. For this purpose an agent, or agents, had been sent into various parts of our state with representatives of the low state of evangelical religion in the backsliding town of Deerfield; and aid has been given by some of our enlightened orthodox guides. The Rev. Tertius Clark, now a minister in Stockbridge in the County of Berkshire, purchased one of the ~~collecting~~ beggary agent with a letter to the good people of that County, in which Unitarian Divinity was branded with the epithet of Baptized Deism. The letter, by a singular accident, fell into the hands of the Unitarians of Deerfield, and was by them published in the newspapers. This Mr. Clark had formerly been settled in Bloody Brook, in this town, and after several removes to other parts, was ordained a minister of Stockbridge. His external appearance was favorable, but with his literary attainments I had but little acquaintance. If under the present light that has been thrown around theology, he has remained wedded to the old absurdities he must be either a

dull scholar or a willing dupe. Mr Clark, we are informed, has recently published something in the Stockbridge paper by the way of defence, in which he admits that there are some valuable men among Unitarians, and that in the use of the term Baptized Deism he adopted a ~~description~~ phrase now common among his brethren. But neither he nor his followers in this town, ~~are~~ appear very desirous to remove the stigma they have endeavored to cast upon Unitarians, though some of the party have expressed their regret that the letter of Mr Clark was written. We believe, however that their regret is rather from its appearance before the public than from its contents. Some of the most fanatical justify it in every point, as strictly correct. But in this country, where the press is free, and no subject deemed too sacred to undergo discussion, the struggle against free investigation will be vain; and if Christianity will not bear the crucible, it must sink in the estimation of discerning men. With its orthodox adulterations it is clear to me, that it cannot stand the test; and so long as its adherents to ~~of~~ that commixture hold to its genuineness a host of enemies, among the good and philosophic will be found arrayed against it. Let us then congratulate our Country on the rise and increase of a learned and

honest clergy, who repudiate the errors and [ ] that have been attached to Christianity by the orthodox, and are endeavoring to present it in a form and attitude worthy of the philosopher. worthy of the good citizen and consistent with the attributes of God. Already the progress made is great; much of the fungus is cut away, and its beauty is coming into view. With the example of Luther before them, let our enlightened Clergy [ ] persevere until they have effected a reformation, which shall complete what Luther ~~was compelled to leave~~ necessarily left undone.

Thursday 12. Morn cloudy, but rather broken, sun out before noon-wind westerly, and air cooler than preceding days. Afternoon nimbus clouds overspread the sky generally, with occasional openings; the air of a most agreeable temperature invigorating to the body and mind.

Received a letter from C.O. Boutelle dated Boston July 9<sup>th</sup> informing that he had obtained temporary employment under Mr S. Borden, our Geodesic Surveyor. He is to proceed to Buzzards Bay, and make a detailed survey of the shore, connecting it with the primitive points fixed on Eliza beth Islands; has procured a 40 dollar Circumfrentor of Thaxtin's at Boston, Mr Borden will employ him as a



draughtsman in the delineation of the State map, in case Gov. Everett will consent. He has also a ~~some~~ promise of employment under Mr Jas. Hayward, in the course of about three months, should he want it. Mr. Borden, I think, after a short trial of Mr. Boutelle's skill, will not be willing to part with him; and I believe he will render most important services in the calculations and delineations of the map of the Commonwealth. I am gratified to find him thus employed.

Friday 13- Morn cloudy and calm; at 11 o'clock fair; afternoon fair with many cumulo Stratus clouds, the heat moderate.

From the proceedings of Congress it appears that the army of the US is to be increased by the addition of 4500 men, making the whole ~~number~~ establishment 12458 ~~men~~. The number is still too small, even for a peace establishment, unless a select militia of about 100,000 be organized, and disciplined to the duties of the field at the public expense, and kept ready for service at any moment. The Secretary of War & Genl. Macomb in their last report to Congress, recommend an augmentation of the Army to 15,000. The Indians on the frontiers are estimated at 250,000 and supposed to be able to furnish 30,000 warriors.

Saturday 14 Morn fair and calm; Afternoon westerly breeze and very clear sky; heat moderate

Sunday 15 Morn fair. wind south; afternoon much covered with cirro stratus clouds: air pretty warm.

Monday 16 Morn fair and calm: sky soon clouded over at noon a gentle rain commenced & fair at night day warm

Mailed a Letter to my son Arthur at Paris, Illinois.

In his last to me (June 17) he mentions that he shall probably remain in the States service until January next, and whether longer is uncertain. I suppose the Legislature is to sit at that time and some expectations are entertained that their great system of internal improvements may be suspended, as there is much opposition to it. The state may indeed find it difficult to procure money for the prosecution of the works; but it would be a greater loss to have them in an unfinished state. The project I think is rather too extensive for a young state: and perhaps an experiment made on some of the most important routes would have been wiser. In so level a Country other kind of roads might have answered all the purposes of inland transportation. Simply raising the ground by embankments would form good roads on the prairies, of which

the greater portion of the state consists; and to me it appears doubtful whether engine power will be extensively used on the railroads if completed. The expense of the engines and of fuel, will be a serious objective to their use, and ultimately horse power may be preferred, as more economical.

Tuesday 17. Morn fair wind northerly: afternoon very clear, and pretty warm with little wind, and no clouds at sun set.

Congress closed its protracted session on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> instant. Much of the time has been spent in party discussions: something has been done and much left undone that ought to have been done. Less party spirit in that body is desirable; and when this is found so the true the interest of the Country will be better attended to.

The newspapers mention the loss of many lives from the heat of the weather, and drinking of cold water. Will this be adduced as an argument in favor of mixing the water with ardent spirits? But it may be asked, which will kill the most, cold water or ardent spirits? I believe the latter.

Wednesday 18 Morn fair with scattering cirrus clouds (stratus) air calm. At 10 wind from south. Noon, nimbus clouds overspread the sky, from the west, and ~~some~~ rain fell, but I perceived no thunder. Clouds continue most of afternoon.

Since the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, though the weather has been warm and some days very hot, we have had no thunder showers though constantly looked for. How is this explained. Is the ascending aqueous vapor heat and the electric field sometimes so diffused in the atmosphere that air equilibrium is preserved, and neither clouds found, nor a [      ] of electricity produced? And why does this state of the atmosphere exist at one time and not at another when the heat of the weather is the same? This equilibrium of the electricity seems to be preserved when nimbus clouds overspread the sky, as in what we call, a rainy day, even when the weather is hot.

But when cumulus clouds rise in a hot day and a clear sky, we generally have thunder showers. In this case the clouds ~~are~~ floating in the dry air are insulated and retain their electricity, whether positive or negative, until they come within striking distance of conductors and the equilibrium is restored.

Much seems to depend on the direction of winds, and we

find thunder showers frequent when there is a southerly ~~and~~ one, especially in warm weather; with a steady N wester these showers are not very frequent. When opposite currents of air, of different temperatures meet, the production of clouds may be rapid, and showers quickly follow, and in hot weather, are generally attended with thunder.

Plausible theories have been advanced to explain these operations in the Atmosphere; but in a fluid so elastic and susceptible of change from heat and other agents, as the ~~atmosphere~~ air it is difficult to form any on which strong reliance can be placed. Along series of metrological observations might furnish some data for foretelling the changes in the heavens; but it is believed that none would convey the observer beyond weak probability. In the winter we may look for snow, in the summer for rain, and there are nearly all we can predict, with any degree of certainty. Some of our wise men look to the moon & planets for changes in the weather: these I lay entirely out of the question, as not less futile than the puerile pretensions of ancient astrology. now exploded by our real philosophers. A system to explain “what was observe by something more obscure”

Thursday

Thursday 19 Fair morn northerly breeze afternoon  
partially cloudy, nearly calm and warm.

Clear at sun set~

Last evening Mr. John W. Barber of New Haven, Connecticut called on me, and spent a short time. He is an Engraver ~~and~~ Draughtsman and author of a Book, containing a description of the towns, scenery &c in Connecticut, and is now traveling in Massachusetts, taking sketches and views of our towns, with a design of publishing a similar work on our State. His book on Connecticut has gone through two editions within two years, comprised in a large 8vo Vol of 560 pages. containing many views, on copper plate and wood engravings, well executed. The work contains much that is interesting and useful, particularly to the antiquary. Mr Barber has sketched some views in our street, to be inserted in his contemplated work. Efforts of this kind are laudable and deserve encouragement from ~~from~~ men of taste; and it is hoped they will multiply and correct the pernicious ~~taste~~ appetite for novels, which now prevails in our Country.

Mr. Barber generously presented me his "History and Antiquities of New Haven" with handsome plates & prints an interesting work of 120 pages. Mr. Barber mentions the

spectre ship, seen at New Haven in 1648 noted in Mather's Magnalia. Mather it seems obtained his account from a letter written to him, by Rev. James Pierpont of New Haven. The phenomenon Mr. Barber thinks, may be explained by supposing a ship was sailing at the time, off the harbor of New Haven in the sound, and that her reflected image was delineated, to the eyes of the beholder, on the clouds, so as to appear very near, according to the laws of optics, as now understood. Querie Does this appearance occur, unless the ship is so far distant as to be below the visual line of the spectator; and is the width of the sound opposite to N Haven, sufficient to depress a large ship below this line? If this was not the case of the spectre ship, the real ship would have been seen at the same time. In cases of these phenomena, the spectre is generally seen inverted, and are caused by terrestrial refraction and not ~~produced~~ by reflection. See Brewster's Letters on Natural magic.

Friday 20 Morn fair southerly breeze at 1 of  
 the clock a generally spread nimbus cloud  
~~cloud~~ from the west, with thunder and slight rain.  
 the day warm. at 5 a second thunder shower  
 Our people who rose before the sun this morn,  
 say they saw in the east a regular ~~on the eastern~~ bow with  
 prismatic colors, which they called a rainbow  
 This could not have been a rain bow as  
 the sun was in the same direction; it must  
 come under the description of a halo which though  
 not very common in the summer season,  
~~though~~ are frequently seen in cold climates and  
 sometimes in our own, in the cold season. The  
 rationale not really well explained.  
Saturday 21. Morn fair, wind NW. and  
 air refreshing. Clouds cumulo stratus & fre  
 quent, but the NW wind being pretty steady  
 & brisk, I look for no showers. The day con  
 tinued fair and cool throughout. Thermor  
 about 75° Our people have nearly completed  
 the gathering of the crop of Rye. The berry I think  
 not very plump. A cold summer best for Rye & Wheat.



Sunday 22. Morn fair southerly breeze Clouds, cirro stratus at 9 oclock wind shifted to north, and cool~

Afternoon, air warmer and many cumulo stratus clouds, but no indication of a shower. A wind from the south or SW charged with warm vapor, and meeting the colder air from the N.W. quarter, would probably have produced showers. Thus far, I think, we may rely on Theory with some probability in predicting showers. But this remains to be verified by observations.

Monday 23d. Morn fair Wind northerly air cool. At ten o'clock, thin cirrus clouds nearly overspread the sky, with some cumulo stratus scattered about. In the afternoon the air nearly calm, clouds similar to those of the forenoon.

Remarks on a Note inserted, page 77 of my Antiquarian Researches. In this note I have said, that evidence is not wanting to prove, and the opinion is now common among geologists, that the whole bason, bounded on the highlands east and west of the Connecticut in Massachusetts, extending from the highlands in Bernardston & Leyden, to mounts Holyoke and Tom below Hadley and Northampton, and the dram of hills stretching through Westfield, was, at some remote period, covered by a Lake, or expansion

of Connecticut River; and that the water has gradually drained off through the southern barrio at South Hadley falls, and the passage of Westfield River at Feeding Hills.

At the time I wrote the note, it was supposed that a range of hills south of Westfield existed, of sufficient height to produce the supposed Lake; but it appears by the levels taken on the route of the Farmington Hampden & Hampshire canal, that the surface of the ground in Southampton is only 134 feet above the surface of the Connecticut, where the canal joins it in Northampton; and that Southampton presents the highest land on the canal route to New Haven. The supposed lake undoubtedly existed at some time, but of an extent less than I had supposed; & the widest marks of water near the summit of the south sugar loaf in this town, render it highly probable that the water once spread over the Country to that height. But this must have been at a period more remote than the lake I have supposed to exist after Connecticut River began to flow. Had the barrier at mounts Holyoke & Tom been higher than the land in Southampton, the Connecticut must have followed the valley of the Farmington

and perhaps to New Haven. Hence it is evident that a gorge must have existed between those two hills of a lower level than the Southampton surface. But {—} a height less than 134 feet at this gorge, would have produced a lake, or expansion of the Connecticut, of a depth sufficient to cover the plain in Whately and Hatfield, and perhaps the surface of Greenfield. Also of Hadley & Sunderland, if not of the lowest part of Montague; and these townships may ~~might~~ have remained under water perhaps as long as the world ~~might should~~ had continued.

The topography of the Country at Middletown presents a similar features. Had there been no gorge through the mountain where the river now passes, the water must have flowed through Durham, Wallingford & North Haven to New Haven harbor, and the country above middle town to Enfield, and perhaps to South Hadley, been a lake or expansion of the River.

The fact of the lower lands of the two gorges above mentioned, is important in the contemplation of the topography of the Connecticut Valley; and seems to indicate design in the overruling power, rather than the operation of undirected chance. See P. Hitchcocks Remarks page 132 Geological Report.

Tuesday 24 Morn fair, but the sky somewhat covered wind southerly. Afternoon heavy stratus clouds or Nimbus, cover the sky; wind brisk & cool At 6 oclock rain (moderate) and [ ] clouded sky.

Here, it may be remarked, we have a change of wind from the NW quarter to south, bringing with it exhalation of a temperature higher than what we have had for a few previous days. A hot air would probably caused thunder showers.

#### Explosion of Gun Powder at Pittsfield

A powder magazine situated in the cemetery near the center of the village, blew up, and destroyed or damaged a number of buildings among which is the medical Institution. Some at the distance of 100 rods are said to be injured. The quantity of powder is stated at 800 lbs, and why there deposited, and by what means fired, I know not. Some lads have been accused & arrested and are under examination That buildings should have been much damaged at the distance of 100 rods, is incredible.

Wednesday 25. Morn sky overspread with nimbus clouds winds southerly. I look for showers. Afternoon many cirro cumulus clouds; thunder in the NW, and dark dense cloud passed over north of us in a shower. Evening is slight thunder shower


Thunder Storm at Worcester.

The Worcester Spy gives an account of what it calls “one of the most [—] ~~explosions ever witnessed here~~ remarkable thunder showers that we ever witnessed,” not for its great extent or for the quantity of rain, but for the cloud’s being apparently in the very midst of us, so that the atmosphere seemed filled with electric fluid, which played about amongst us, ~~to that the atmosphere seemed filled with~~ as it is frequently seen to do, in the clouds, at a greater elevation from the earth.”

One of the heaviest discharges fell upon the dwelling house of Samuel Daniels, but it was so well protected by the house conditions of the new construction, that the fluid was conveyed safely into the earth, without any damage to the building or inmates. Several other buildings were struck, but being protected by rods in the new manner, were not injured. A button wood tree was considerably injured by a discharge, which evidently went upward from the earth to the cloud. The splinting of the wood is all in an upward direction, and the splinters that remain attached to the tree, are attached

by the upper end; and other indications correspond therewith. At Northborough, on the same, day, one of the severest thunder showers occurred.

The storm at Worcester occurred in the evening of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. and of course the lightning must have been more terrific than in the day time. This is the substance of the account in the Worcester Spy.

The newly constructed rods are mentioned, these I suppose were of the square bar of metal, and perhaps ~~further~~  aided by metallic conductors surrounding the building horizontally, and connected with the rods, as recommended by some late writers on electricity. Whether this mode of securing buildings is preferable to the old one, is a question. If a rod of a good size, is well erected and carried a good depth into the ground ~~earth~~, and connected with moist earth or with water, a building of a moderate dimensions will generally be safe. If the building is large, two or more rods may be necessary.

The shock upon the button wood tree is supposed to have ascended. This, according to the Franklinian theory of positive and negative electricity, may occur; but the indications of it from the appearance of the splinters  
of

the tree are somewhat fallacious. Many experiments have been made to determine the direction of the electric discharge, but the results have been doubtful: the appearance of the flash will be similar whatever may be its direction; and it is now held by many electricians that in all discharges, the shock is produced by the rushing together of two fluids of opposite qualities, in opposition to Franklin's theory of positive and negative electricity. At this time, however, the theory of Franklin has the most adherents.

On turning to my registry of the weather, on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant I find it noticed, that the day was hot, the thermometer at 92, wind SW, and at sun set cloudy, and in the evening lightning in assent, but distant. Our distance from Worcester may be 50 miles, on a right line. Probably the storm extended a considerably ~~distance~~ westerly of Worcester.

#### Steam Boat Law

Towards the close of the last session, Congress passed a law to regulate navigation on our waters, in steam boats. New licenses are to be taken out, but not until the hold of the vessels and boilers have been thoroughly examined by proper persons, and their certificate obtained, that, in their

opinion, the vessel and machinery are sound and safe to be employed in transmitting goods and passengers. ~~These~~ Examinations of the ~~vessels~~ machinery are to be made every six months, and of the hull every year.

Boats navigating Lakes to have 2 long boats capable of carrying 20 persons each, and sea vessels 3 similar long boats all [ ] to have iron rods or chains, instead of tiller ropes, and fine engines in good conditions; and in all cases of stopping with a head of steam, to open the safety valve, and keep up the steam as when under way. Signal lights to kept out in the night. Heavy penalties for violating any of these provisions.

Owners and masters responsible for all damages of persons & property, from explosions, collapses, or injurious escape of steam; and every officer or other person employed on board a boat through whose carelessness or misconduct an explosion occurs, which destroys life, shall be deemed guilty of manslaughter, and on conviction, sentenced to confinement at hard labor, not exceeding ten years.

The act to go into operation on the first of October next

It is hoped this law will render less frequent the heart rending scenes which have so often occurred in steam navigation.



It may lessen the number which are now running in an unguarded manner, to the imminent risk of life and property; but this should not be regretted if the voyages are rendered secure, even if the expenses of passage & transportation shall be increased

Milk sickness in the western States, by a Traveler

A Correspondent of an Indiana paper, says, this sickness is prevalent at Logansport on the Wabash; some parts of Ohio and south of St Louis, and others of the southwestern States. A difference of opinion prevails as to the cause of it; but, says the writer, the general impression is, that it is occasioned by the yellow oxyd or arsenic in the low ground and woodland, and particularly near the Wabash, and that some weed (yet unknown) imbibes the poison, and when eaten by cattle causes them to quiver, stagger and die within a few hours. Milk and butter, when thus poisoned, if eaten by people often produces ~~is sure~~ death; and, he says, he has seen many farms with comfortable buildings and quarters to avoid the dreadful course. But, he adds, I have never seen any section of country superior in soil to the land adjoining the Wabash, and this sickness is the only objection to it. I think it very doubtful whether the writer & his informant have given the true course of the malady of which he speaks. Flint

Flint says it occurs most frequently in the autumn, about the period when the first severe frosts happen, when the cattle are driven by necessity to feed on succulent vines, and herbage of the forests, that remain unhurt by the frost, and is supposed to be occasioned by the eating of some poisonous vegetable. See Sketch Book, No 7 page 53, for his account of the malady

Thursday 26 Morn fair, cool and calm; a few thin cirro stratus clouds in the westerly half of the horizon; a gentle southerly breeze before noon; and at noon nimbus clouds cover the sky, & a sprinkling of rain, which continues.

Yesterday commenced what our almanacs term Dog-Days to extend to the 5<sup>th</sup> of September= 42 days. During this time, according to the vulgar notion, the heat of the weather is governed by the influence of Sirius, or the Dog Star (A Canis Major)

This notion is about as well founded as that of the moons influence on the human body, when in water signs of the ecliptic, which our calculators of Almanacs find necessary to continue, to insure the sale of them among the unlearned.

In ancient times the dog days had some relation to the heliacal rising of Sirus. Hesiod an ancient Grecian Poet asserts ~~says~~ "that the hottest season of the year ended about 50 days after the summer solstice; and as Sirius rose heliacally

cally at the commencement of that season, in Egypt and Greece.” At a time when astrology referred almost every thing to the influence of the stars, it was natural for those people to imagine that the heat &c was the effect of that star’s influence [ ] (Wallace’s New Treatise on the Globes &c p. 233)

In our almanacs little regard seems to be had to the summer solstice, or the heliacal rising of the Dog Star, and the dog days have been assigned to different times, according to the whim of the astrologers~

In our almanacs, Wallace (in the work above cited) says “the dog days begin on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, which is 12 days after the summer solstice, and end on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August, which is 51 days after the summer solstice; this continuance at what time these dog days commence or terminate; and the designation of the ~~time~~ days would be harmless, were it not for the false impression it creates that the dog star has an influence on the weather during the hot season; leading the uninformed to account for natural operations by occult and mysterious causes, which true science would set aside. The Latin adage, vide et crede is appropriate.

Friday 27 Morn fair; some rain last night, air calm At 8 o'clock a northerly breeze and clear sky. Afternoon very clear sky and westerly breeze. Air rather warm.

Saturday 28 Morn sky overspread with clouds and fog. Clear at 8 o'clock, with southerly wind. Afternoon many cirrocumulus Clouds; air hot wind veers to the west 4 o'clock this afternoon excessively hot, thermometer at the post of fice at 95. Dense cumulus clouds pass eastward across southern part of the horizon.

Sunday 29 Morn fair; wind SW ~~southerly~~; clouds cirro stratus; Air warm; afternoon wind varied to west & blew fresh, wafting cooler air. Sun set, clear and calm. Notwithstanding the heat of the day, and variable winds there have been no indication of thunder showers; but from a cumulus cloud, seen in the east, late in the afternoon moving off, distant thunder was heard; a shower may have occurred in that quarter. Thermo. 93 or 94 maximum.

Monday 30 Morn, many stratus clouds are seen wind southerly; heat moderate. At 11 o'clock wind west & brisk many cirro ~~stratus~~ cumulus clouds thermo. 90+. In the afternoon the west wind continued and generally a clear sky. And air pretty warm. No appearance of showers. Sun set clear air and much cooler.

### The Wabash and Maumee Canal

The following is from the Boston Courier July 23d~

“The Canal is to reach from Manhattan on the mouth of Maumee river, to Terre Haute in the Wabash. 310 miles; there by a cross cut, 24 miles to central canal, and down the southern section of that, 110 miles to Evansville on the Ohio river, in the southwestern part of Indiana, making a total distance of 444 miles. The summit level about 200 feet above Lake Erie, is at Fort Wayne~ 110 miles of this canal, west of Fort Wayne are ready for navigation. 106 miles eastward of Fort Wayne, to Manhattan, its termination, are under contract, partly made, and to be completed by Octr 1, 1830.” The projects of our New States, I fear, are greater than their means. For the present the opening of the Wabash canal ought to satisfy Indiana: When this is completed the State will have a water communication with Albany, New York, Pittsburg, St Louis, the Missouri, upper Mississippi and New Orleans; the only land carriage being within the State. Within a few years the state will rank high as an agricultural region, and will furnish much produce for markets on the sea board, at the market prices at the parts where sold; which will differ from the value of eastern produce only by the value less the transportation.

Tuesday 31. Morn fair, clear and cool air, very agreeable to the feelings after the heat we have experienced. Not a breath of air stirring. The west wind which prevailed yesterday, seems to have brought a cool air: about 9 o'clock a westerly wind commenced. Afternoon, air [    ], & appearance of smoke on the SW mountains and across the southern part of the horizon. Sundown cirrus & stratus clouds & clear of smoke~

This day our dining table is furnished with green corn of full growth, from our garden, planted ~~about~~ the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. Its growth must have been rapid for which we are indebted to the warm weather which has prevailed this season; and I think we may be sure of a fine crop of this important article. All other crops appear promising except that of potatoes, which ~~appear~~ are very defective. Warm seasons are not favorable to their crop; the best in our Latitude will be found on our high mountains, where the soil is good. The potato alluded to, is the Solanum tuberosum, common in the northern states. The sweet potato of the southern states (convolvulus batatas) will not flourish here. During the cold summers we have experienced for a few years past the Solanum has been excellent on our low intervals, & this was owing to the absence of heat.

August 1838

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of August. Morning, the sky nearly covered with clouds, with a little fall of rain about sun rise. Sky soon clear; wind westerly; afternoon warm and cumulus clouds. Thermo. 86: Sun set clear Wind brisk during most of the day & no appearance of a shower. This morning early, our people were roused from their slumbers by the brisk ringing of our village bells. Some not knowing the cause, ran to their doors expecting to hear the cry of fire! Not so! The news soon circulated of the [—] ~~news the~~ fact of the total emancipation of slavery in the British West India Islands, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1838. What a glorious event in the annals of Great Britain! That Nation under an hereditary monarchy, has nobly stepped forward and emancipated half a million of their fellow beings, from the chains and lashes of their assumed masters! An act which our southern states, composed of pure Republicans! hold to be incompatible with liberty, in accordance with the sentiments of Ex Governor M.Duffie of South Carolina, who recently declared that slavery was the cornerstone of republicanism! With the Latinists I say, Qous Deus vult perdere, prius, dememtat!<sup>1</sup> As a proof of the progress

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<sup>1</sup> Latin for “those whom a god wishes to destroy he first drives mad.”

of knowledge, and the amelioration of the conditions of the world, this event affords conclusive evidence; and I rejoice that I have lived to see it. Will our southern brethren study ~~receive~~ this lesson before it is too late? This emancipation, be it remembered, is coincident with the wishes and interests of the planters, in the West India Islands. What will our pro-slavery men say to this?

An address is to be delivered at our Church this evening, adapted to the occasion. ~~Are~~ Is there to be found among us any who withhold an expression of joy on this occasion? If so, they must have emigrated, in the midst of winter, from the very centre of Melville Island, of Parry and Ross, been nursed in iced huts, and their hearts never felt one glow of heat one tender emotion, one heavenly attribute. With such, none but the cold blooded animals would claim affinity, and it is ardently hoped that but a few of this description are found among us.

Thursday 2 Morn overspread with broken clouds.

A N.W. wind & heat moderate. Clouds cleared off before noon and cirro stratus continue in detached masses. Afternoon fair and moderately warm. Thermo. about 82.



Coronation of the Queen of England.

In a New-York paper we have a full detail of the coronation of Victoria, a female of 19 years, who is now placed at the head of the British Nation. The ceremonies took place in Westminster Abbey on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June last, and excited great attention in the City of London, and many foreigners of note were present, among whom was Marshall Soult of France, the able antagonist of Lord Wellington in the Spanish Campaigns. The presence of these two officers, on the most friendly terms, was highly gratifying to the people.

The procession through the streets of London, and the ceremonies at the Abbey were brilliant and imposing, and little confusion was seen throughout the day, and much loyalty was evinced by the numerous body of people assembled.

To a plain republican, many of the ceremonies must have appeared as trifling and unimportant; and indeed under our System of Government they would be ~~are~~ useless utility. They may throw about the crown a sort of sanctity and reverence, tending to keep the people loyal by enacting a pride of their crowned head ~~And if her reign is [—], I say “Long Live Victoria.”~~ With

With regard to the propriety of entrusting women with the executive government, there is a difference of opinion but in this Country it is generally held that it is improper. Admitting their mental powers to be equal to those of men yet their education, their habits and their tender sympathies are of a kind which seems to unfit them for such critical employments. And though there may have been instances in which these [ ] have been [ ] to the nations over which they have been placed; yet in a majority of instances, I believe, it has proved the reverse.

Mrs. Jameson who wrote memoirs of celebrated Female sovereigns, on examining this question says, “on the whole, it seems indisputable that the experiments hither to made in the way of female government have been generally unfortunate; and that women called to empire have been, in most cases, conspicuously unhappy or criminal So that, were we to judge by the past, it might be decided at once, that the power which belongs to us, as a sex, is not properly or naturally that of the scepter or the sword.” The people of Great Britain however seem to be of a different opinion; they adhere strictly to their old system of hereditary descent, and if they are content with a female government they have the right to {—} adopt it. Nor would

we deny them the right, were they to ~~extend~~ embrace  
~~all females~~ both sexes within their aristocracy, and extend the ~~right of~~  
franchise to all the females of the nation;- a system, as  
it appears to us, in strict conformity, with that of placing  
females at the head of their government. And if they  
find the administration of their present Queen propitious  
to the nation, with them we exclaim Long live Victoria!  
Friday 3 Morn fair, calm and cool. Northerly  
wind soon prevailed. Afternoon very clear and NW breeze  
and pretty warm~

The surface of the ground is now becoming dry and  
the roads dusty. Our farmers gathering wheat crops  
in some instances the berry a little shrunk. Forty  
or 50 years ago crops of wheat, on old lands, were seldom  
raised, and the crop of Rye was considered as very doubt  
ful on our interval lands. (Why this variation?)

The most productive wheat lands, are found in our village  
homelots; these are never flowed by the freshets, and have  
less [    ] in their composition than the meadow. Perhaps the  
application of clay would render the latter better for  
both wheat and rye; and lime no doubt would  
be good for both.

Saturday 4. Morn fair, southerly wind; afternoon wind N.W. air clear and warm. Sun set clear and calm  
 The weather for a few days has been pleasant and the heat generally moderate & from the appearance of the crops a stranger would pronounce our country fine; but were he to tarry with us until the middle of winter he would alter his opinion, and be astonished to find so cold a season in the latitude of 42° 32' N. This is the principal objection to our section of Country, and must forever render agriculture less profitable than in those where the winters are less severe, and of shorter duration.

General Washington in a letter to Sir John Sinclair, speaking of New England, says "The climate especially to the eastward of the Hudson, is cold; the winter long, consuming a great part of the summer's labor in support of their stock during the winter. A mildew or blight prevents them from raising wheat adequate to their own consumption, and of other grains they expect little or none fish being their staple."

Of the Country further south (or middle states) he says, "The western parts of Maryland and Virginia, quite to the line of North Carolina, about tide water, and

move especially above the Blue Mountains, are similar to the those of Pennsylvania, between the Susquehanna and Potomac Rivers, in soil, climate and productions; and in my opinion will be considered, if not so already, as the garden of America; for as much as they lie between the two extremes of heat and cold, partaking in a degree of the advantages of both, without feeling much the inconveniences of either; and with truth it may be said, they are among the most fertile lands in America, east of the Appalachian Mountains.”

“The uplands of North and South Carolina and Georgia,” he adds, “are not dissimilar in soil, but as they ~~they~~ approach the lower latitudes, are less congenial to wheat, and are supposed to be proportionably more unhealthy.”

Another objection to New England & which the General [ ]  
mitted, is the vast consumption of fuel during our winter seasons, and its want of mineral coal. True at present wood fuel may be obtained in some parts, at a moderate price; but this will not long continue to be the case: For though, by due care and industry this article may be cultivated to considerable extent; yet, as in all old countries, it will at length, become severe, and barely

sufficient for building timber, even where edifices are erected of stone or brick. In countries where coal abounds this great inconvenience is not felt. In selecting a Country for a residence ~~there~~, it is important then, to regard its capability of furnishing a permanent supply of fuel, as well as its climate in regard to health. In a cold region where a sufficient quantity of fuel cannot be obtained, the poorer class of people are miserably situated; and if a due quantity of coal is not hereafter found in New-England, the inhabitants at large, will be far from an eligible situation. Coal is found in some of the middle & western states in abundance; but the cost of its transportation to the northern parts of the northern states, must render it too expensive for ordinary farmers and common laborers. In warm countries where little fuel is required, the growth of the forests may keep pace with their consumption, if not exceed it, in which case there will be no want of ligneous fuel, unless from a [ ] waste.

The formation and distribution of Coal through various portions of the Globe, and particularly where most wanted, is one of those demonstrations of the benevolence of nature, which we see in others, in what ever direction we turn our eyes, and

proves irresistibly that an intelligent power must be the motor who ~~what~~ is every where, and at all times, adapting his works to the comfort and convenience of man.

Sunday 5. Morn fair with thin scattered clouds, smoky atmosphere wind southerly fair moderately warm: afternoon many cirro stratus clouds and hot: At 3 ½ past noon, a gentle shower from the west no thunder. Clouds remain over the sky. 2d rain sun set (small); some distant thunder.

Monday 6 Last night a bountiful rain, and our street road, which has become dust & powder, has standing water on its surface. Morn fair: clouds breaking away; wind south & warm afternoon small showers & several past N & S of us giving distant thunder ~

Having been requested by the Committee charged with the erection of the Lathrop monument at Bloody Brook, to prepare an Inscription to be placed upon it, I have looked over the authors who have detailed the ambuscade, and find they disagree respecting the number of men with Lathrop, as well as that of the slain.

1<sup>st</sup> Hubbard states Lathrop's force at about 80

To which add teamsters with the carts, as given by others

	18
Total	98
Out of their number 7 or 8 escaped, say	8
killed	90, including
teamsters as drivers: agreeing with Hubbard.	

2d Account as given in Drake's Book of the Indians,  
 compiled from various sources; Whole force 88  
 His number includes teamsters belonging to }  
 Deerfield, who it would appear, were at Hadley } 8  
 and marched with the detachment, Deduct men escaped \_\_\_\_\_  
 killed 80 \_\_\_\_\_

3d In a note at the end of Gov Everett's Bloody  
 Brook address, we have the names of the slain  
 belonging to Lathrop's company, amounting to 59  
 including the Capt. to which add the teamsters 18  
 Gives the number who fell 77  
 Add the men who escaped 8  
 Give the whole force under Lathrop 85

I have taken this last statement, as probably, the most  
 correct. In Moseley's subsequent action, Hubbard says  
 "not above 2 men were killed"; these added to 77; give  
 79, slain on the ground, the same day, agreeing with the  
 2d account less one.

Increase Mather says "above 60 persons were buried  
 in one dreadful grave." See his History of the war. Probably  
 there was another grave; and thus I have been in  
 formed, from an elderly man, who pointed out the Grave  
 found in front of Stephen Whitney's house. The



The following is a copy of the inscription, as handed to the sculptor, Mr. Woods.

On this Ground, Capt. Thomas Lathrop and eighty four men under his command, including eighteen teamsters from Deerfield, conveying stores from that town to Hadley, were ambuscaded by about 700 Indians, and the Captain and seventy six men slain, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 1675 (Old Style).

The soldiers who fell were described by a contemporary Historian, as “a choice Company of Young men the very flower of the County of Essex, none of whom were ashamed to speak with the enemy in the gate.”

“And Sanguinetto tells you where the dead  
Made the earth wet, and turn’d the unwilling waters red.”

This monument erected August 1838~

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On the south ~~west~~ side of the monument the following to be placed. The Grave of the slain is marked by a stone slab 21 rods southerly of this monument.

The poetry is from Lord Byron, and Sanguinetto from the Italian, signifying a little bloody stream, or bloody brook, is very apposite. The Inscription would have been more full had there been room on one face of the monument~

Previous to the rains yesterday and last night, the ground has become dry, ~~and~~ Indian Corn on sandy land, had suffered and the crop of Potatoes presented an unfavorable appearance. By recurring to my journal of the weather it appears that we have had no long drought; but the weather has been generally hot and westerly winds have prevailed. The dryness of the ground then must be owing to these two circumstances. Evaporation from the surface of the earth is very much accelerated by a dry wind sweeping over it; in a hot day, though the evaporation may be considerable, yet it is much less than when wind prevails; and the difference in the two cases, is much greater than has been supposed.

The unhealthy appearance of the potato crop must proceed from some disease in the plant, or from the heat of the weather, and probably from the latter. I noticed this appearance before the dry weather commenced, and attributed it to the heat of the Season. Should the crop turn out well on the mountains and highland towns, my theory will be supported. That is, that the Solanum tuberosum requires a temperature lower than is usually found in our valleys to bring it to perfection. Hence

Hence where the land is fertile on the high hills and mountains in our Latitude, we find the best potatoes; those from Hoosac Mountain are of the best quality, owing no doubt to its elevation, where ~~and~~ of course the air is of a lower temperature than the valleys.

Tuesday 7. Morn sky covered with fog. Sun out at 8 o'clock- Wind south; heat moderate. Our River is found, this morning, to have taken a rise, from which I infer there must have been showers to the west and N.W. yesterday; several were seen to pass us, north and south. After such a series of hot and arid days as we have had since the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, it is refreshing to inspire the moist air, produced by the rains of the two preceding days. Yesterday, while the sky was covered, excepting about the middle of the afternoon, when the mercury was at 84, the air was exhilarating and invigorating. One fact in connexion with the hot weather we have experienced, may be noticed. We have had but a little thunder and lightning. By some means there has been an equilibrium of the electric matter in the atmosphere, and between that and the earth. Was this caused by an equal diffusion of aqueous vapour in the atmosphere, which prevented a [      ] of

the electric matter in any part? Or has the extensive spread of the nimbus clouds, during our showers which has uniformly been the case, produced the same effect? In no instance have I noticed a dense mass of detached cumulus clouds at the time our showers have occurred; they have exhibited the aspect of wide spread cirro-stratus collections.

In former times, most of our showers came from the N.W. and they were seen to rise in dense cumulus clouds in that quarter, and ~~they~~ were often seen for hours before they extended, and rain commenced. Of late, most of our showers come from the west, and partake of the stratus form. Why this variation? Shall we attribute it to the clearing of the Country of its woods? We can conceive no other cause, and yet it is difficult thus to explain it~

In the forenoon of this day, the wind changed to the NW and was brisk, and most of the day continued fair and warm. At Sun set cirro stratus clouds in the west. No indications of a shower during the day, as I predicted, after the west wind commenced.

Wednesday 8. Morn fair and calm Air clear, and wind, if any, from the east, and rather hot. This tranquil state of the air continued through out the day and scarcely a cloud was seen

Thursday 9 Morn foggy, calm. Cloudy afternoon with appearance of rain. The latter part of the day was rainy and somewhat foggy, attended with southerly wind air moderately warm.

Friday 10. Rain last night and broken clouds this morn wind northerly. Afternoon fair & many cirro cumulus clouds & pretty warm.

A letter from Charles O. Boutelle, informs me that he returned from his survey at Elizabeth Islands on the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. and was employed at the office in the State House Boston, in making his drawings, which will be shown to the Governor as a specimen. Some interesting historical matters connected with the surveys he has made, he says, he shall soon communicate as well as some papers containing a new system of Geographical Surveying, in which the writer (Hall J. Halley of Charleston) labors very hard to expose his ignorance. He states that he had been called upon to make a survey in Lexington, at 3 dollars per day & expenses allowed

Saturday 11. Morn cloudy wind south moderate rain in the forenoon; afternoon rain with lightning and thunder & sky covered with dark clouds.~

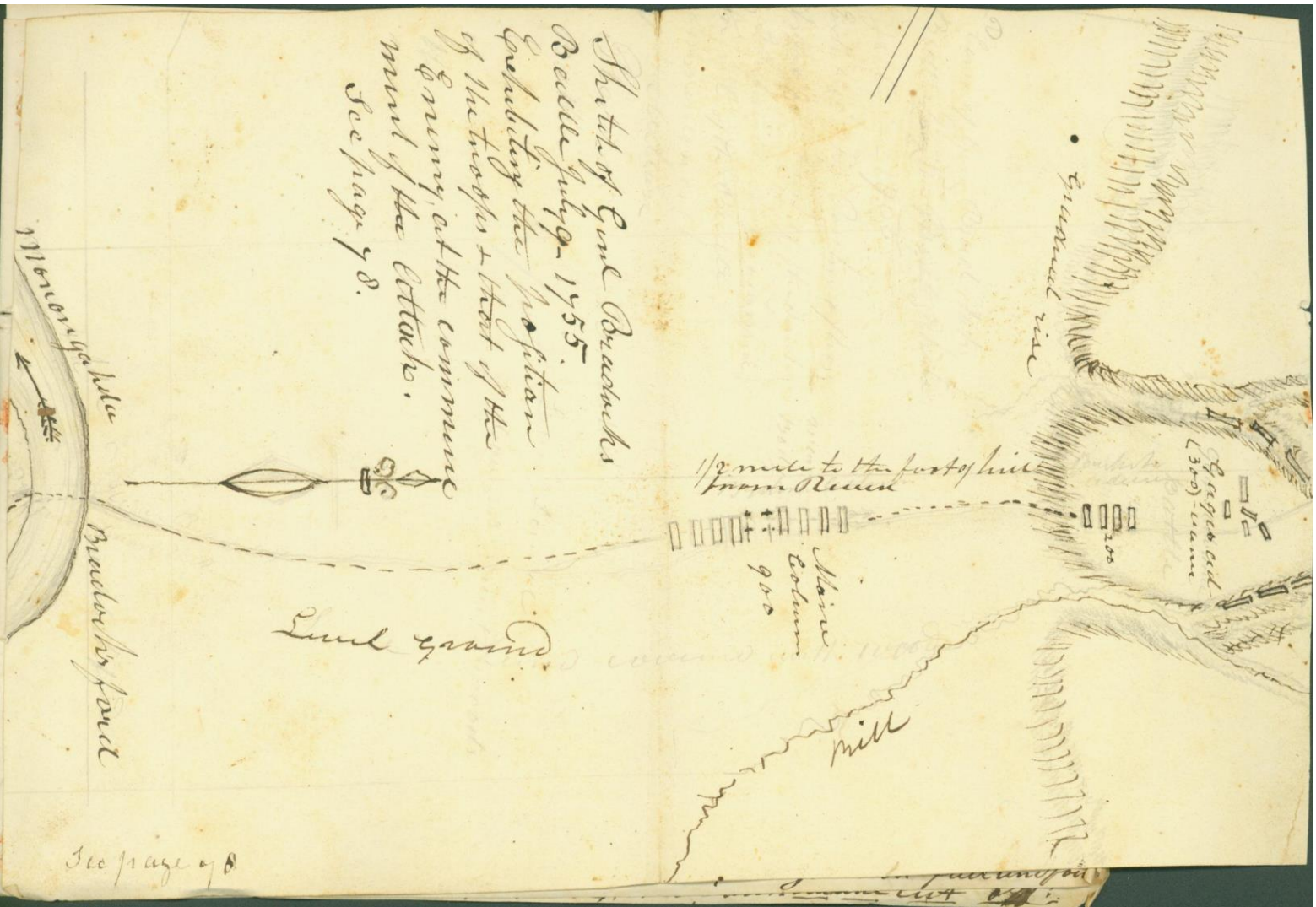
### Braddock's Defeat

With a view of obtaining a more accurate knowledge of Washington's early campaigns, I am giving a reperusal to the 2d Vol. of Sparks' Washington Letters, published in 1834 and my particular attention is led to the expedition and defeat of Gen. Braddock, on the Right (and North) bank of the Monogahela, on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1755~ From Washington's letters written during the expedition, and the account given in the appendix to the volume aided by ~~the~~ an accompanying map and plan, a pretty correct knowledge ~~view~~ of the Battle may be obtained.

The Army of about 2200 men, one half regular troops, (the 44<sup>th</sup> and 48th regiments) with a suitable train of artillery left Well's creek or fort Cumberland, on the Potomac, on the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> of June, attended by a large number of baggage wag gons. Excepting the road, which had been constructed by the small force under Col. Washington the previous ~~last~~ year, ~~the road~~ it was to be cut out and the whole rendered passable for carriages, ~~for most of distance~~, estimated at 115 miles (the whole)

At Laurel Hill about 800 men were halted ~~and~~ to follow ~~proceed~~ under Col. Dunbar by slow marches, while Braddock with

Sketch of Fort DuRoi  
 Beelle July 9. 1755.  
 Exhibiting the position  
 of the troops & that of the  
 enemy at the commence-  
 ment of the attack.  
 See page 78.



See page 78

1400 should proceed more rapidly towards for Dusquesne now Pittsburgh occupied by the French. On the march the Army crossed the Youghigany to the south side, and soon after passing Laurel Hill, [ ] ~~again~~ to the north side, and proceeding down the river, some distance north ~~of it~~ arrived at it's the junction ~~of the river~~ with the Monongahela about 15 miles above fort Dusquesne on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July. Below ~~From~~ this junction the ~~River~~ Monongahela presented a difficult pass over Turtle creek, emptying from the right and to avoid it, the army passed over to the [ ] south side of the River, where was a good route near its bank. At this place Col. Washington, who acted as a volunteer aid to Genl Braddock joined the advance corps, from the Camp of Dunbar, where he had been left sick of a fever, though still in a feeble state. The troops at this time were in the highest spirits and firm in the conviction, that they should in a short time victoriously enter the walls of Fort Duquesne.

Having past the river early on the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> the army proceeded down the south bank in the most perfect order, of which Washington subsequently gave the following description "The most beautiful spectacle I had ever beheld was the display of the British troops on this eventful morning. Every man was neatly dressed in full uniform



the soldiers were arranged in columns and marched in exact order, the sun gleamed from their burnished arms, the river flowed tranquilly on their right, and the deep forest overshadowed there with solemn grandeur on their left. Officers and men were equally inspired with cheering hopes and confident anticipations.”

About noon they arrived at the second place of crossing, ten miles from Fort Duquesne. They halted but a short time, and then began to ford the River and regain its northern bank. As soon as they had crossed they came upon a level plain, elevated but a few feet above the surface of the river, and extending northward nearly half a mile from its margin. Then commenced a gradual ascent at an angle of about three degrees, which terminated in hills of a considerable height at no great distance beyond. The road from the fording place to Fort Duquesne led across the plain and up this ascent, and thence proceeded through an uneven country, at that time covered with wood. (See sketch ~~at the end~~ at beginning)

Three hundred men under Col. Gage composed/made the advance party, which was immediately followed by another of 200. Next came the General with the columns of Artillery

The

the main body of the Army, and the baggage. At 1 o'clock the whole had crossed the river, and almost at this moment a sharp firing was heard upon the advanced parties, who were now ascending the hill and had got forward about 100 yards from the termination of the plain. A heavy discharge of musketry was [ ] in upon their front which was the first intelligence they had of the proximity of the enemy, and this was suddenly followed by another on the right flank. The troops were filled with the greatest consternation, as no enemy were in sight, and the firing seemed to proceed from an inaccessible foe. They fired in their turn, however, but quite at random and obviously without effect, as the enemy kept up a discharge in quick and continued succession.

General Braddock immediately advanced with the main body, to the relief of the van parties, but before he could reach the spot they occupied, they gave way and fell back upon the artillery and the columns he brought up, causing extreme confusion and striking the whole mass with such a panic that no order could afterwards be restored. The officers behaved with the utmost courage, and used every effort to rally the men and bring them to order, but all in vain. In this state they

continued nearly three hours, huddled together in confused bodies, firing irregularly, shooting down their own officers and men, and doing no perceptible harm to the enemy. The Virginia provincials were the only troops, who seemed to retain their senses, and they behaved with a bravery and resolution worthy of a better fate. They adopted the Indian mode, and fought each man for himself behind a tree.

But the General endeavored to form his men into platoons and columns, as if they were maneuvering on the plains of Flanders. Meantime the French & Indians, concealed in ravines which they occupied and behind trees, kept up a deadly and unceasing fire of musketry, singling out their objects, taking deliberate aim, and producing a carnage almost unparalleled in the annals of modern warfare.

More than half of the whole army, which had crossed the river in so proud an array only three hours before, were killed or wounded, the General himself ~~had~~ received a mortal wound, and many of his best officers have fallen by his side. The men says Col. Orme (aid de Camp) were so extremely deaf to the exhortation of the officers that they fired away in the most irregular manner all their ammunition and ran off leaving to the enemy the artillery, ammunition, provision and baggage

In a letter to Governor Dinwiddie, Col. Washington stated ~~said~~ that the dastardly ~~conduct~~ behavior of the regular troops (so called) exposed those, who were inclined to do their duty, to almost certain death; and at length, in spite of every effort to the contrary, they broke and ran as sheep before hounds, leaving the artillery, ammunition, procession baggage, and in short every thing, a prey to the enemy, and when we endeavored to rally them, in hopes of regaining the ground, and what they had left upon it, "it was with as little success as if we had attempted to stop the wild boars of the mountains, or the rivulets with our feet." The retreat was continued in a confused manner to Gists plantation about 6 miles short of Dunbars camp, and some of the men did not stop until they reached that camp.

Gen. Braddock had five horses shot under him, and received a wound through his right arm into his lungs, of which he died the 13<sup>th</sup> instant at the great meadow. Secretary Shirley was shot through the head. Capt Morris was wounded. Col. Washington had two horses shot under him, and his clothes pierced with four balls. Col. Sir Peter Halket was killed upon the spot. Col Burton and Sir John St Claire were wounded. In addition to these

these, the other field officers wounded ~~wounded~~ were Lt. Col. Gage, Col. Orme, Major Sparks and Brigadier Major Halket. Ten Cpts. were killed and five wounded; 15 Leuts. killed & 22 wounded; the whole number of officers in the engagement was 86, of whom 26 were killed, and 37 wounded. The killed and wounded of the privates amounted to 714, of these at least one half were supposed to be killed. The bodies ~~were~~ left on the field of action, were stripped & scalped by the Indians. All the artillery, ammunition, provisions and baggage, every thing in the train of the army, fell into the hands of the enemy and were given up to be pillaged by the savages. Genl. Braddock's papers were also taken; & the same fate befell the papers of Col. Washington. The French and Indian force is variously estimated & cannot be determined with certainty; from 800 to 900 is the probable number; and ~~said are~~ they are said to have been commanded by Capt M de Beaujeu who was killed, and succeeded by M. Dumas. See Appendix to 2 vol. Spark's Washington Letter.

Remarks This defeat was of a most singular character, and perhaps its parallel cannot be found in America. Washington, in a letter to a friend, says, "we have been beaten and shamefully beaten, by a handful of men who only

intended to molest and disturb our march. Victory was their smallest expectation.” The fact is the defeat was owing to a complete panic on the part of the regular troops, which might have extended to the provincials, though a portion from Virginia fought with great bravery, and maintained their ground until nearly the whole were killed, and may, it is said, by the confused fire of the panic struck regulars: And the problem to be solved is, what produced this panic so unlooked for in regular troops?

Most of the historians who have detailed this battle attribute the extraordinary defeat to the haughtiness and obstinacy of Gen. Braddock, in rejecting the prudent advice of ~~offered by~~ his officers, and to his confidence in the efficacy of courage alone in the field of battle. But there are other circumstances, as appears to me, which should be considered.

1<sup>st</sup> The two regiments which the Gen. brought with him from Ireland consisting of 500 men each, ~~and they~~ had been disciplined to all the virtues and ~~show~~ command of the parade, & ~~and~~ [ ] with all the tinsel show of war, but it probably is true that a great proportion of the men had seen little or no actual service in presence of an enemy; and with the movements  
requisite

requisition ground ~~thickly~~ covered with woods, they were unacquainted. At that time the discipline of troops in Europe was heavy and slow, and much confined to ~~the~~ what may be termed the [ ] of the parade; and the service of light in fantry and other ~~elite corps~~ [ ] troops was not extensively introduced into their armies. Braddock it is said, was a rigid disciplinarian and well versed in all the ceremonies of the parade, in which his troops had been carefully taught; But, as a military writer remarks, “troops may be taught all this, and by attaching themselves to much to the show of war, be totally unfit for real service.” They may, he adds, be perfect masters of the manual exercise, and firing together in platoons, yet not know how to fight”. This seems to have been the case with Braddock’s regulars. His officers were not lacking bravery, and in the action they stood their ground with great resolution; but their men deserted them in spite of all their exertions.

The provincial troops, though unacquainted with the mechanical routine of the parade, possessed the courage of soldiers, and fought, in many instances, with effect, from  
behind

behind trees which covered the ground; but it is likely that after seeing the panic and disorder of the regulars, they par took of both.

2d. The ground on which the enemy were found was peculiarly favorable for an ambushade ~~them~~. The plain, or level ground, as has been stated, extended about half a mile northerly from the place where the army forded the Monongahela, then rose gradually for 30 or 40 rods, covered with woods and high grass. On each side of the path, along which Gages advance party proceeded, at the distance of 20 or 30 rods, were ~~sha~~ narrow ravines, converging towards the north, and extending back ~~to the~~ south, to the plain adjoining the river. Within these ravines the enemy were {——} posted, excepting a party in front in the woods further north. Gage's advance had ~~gained~~ reached the ground nearly opposite to the head of the ravines, when it received the first fire from the enemy on the north, and immediately from those in the ravine, on the right. This was the first notice of the proximity of the enemy. The suddenness of the attack and the horrid yell of the Indians from the woods on three sides, threw the advance into confusion and soon compelled it to retreat. ~~in confusion~~. Another party of 200 {—} of Braddock's troops were at this time rising the hill and being



attacked on the flanks were soon in as much confusion as the van; and when the General arrived with the main body that also gave way, as has been described, and the whole retreated across the River, and thence to Dunbars camp. The enemy made no pursuit beyond the river; but returned to the plunder found on the field, and to scalping of the dead and wounded.

3d. The grand error of the General was, in the incautious manner in which he advanced. On the whole route from Fort Cumberland, it appears, he ~~advanced~~ proceeded in one column, with only a van and rear guard, but without extended flanks, and he was perhaps fortunate in not meeting with an ambuscade before he reached the fatal spot where he was defeated. As he approached the French fort, he should have multiplied his precaution. Had the van party under Col. Gage ascended the rising ground at the extremity of the plain beyond the last ford of the river, in several ~~small~~ extended columns of files & flankers the enemy posted in the ravines, would have been discovered in season, to have enabled the General to choose his mode of attack; and by detaching the strong hunter from the main body to the right and left, have easily driven the enemy from their position in the ravines. But

But by continuing his incautious order of march, no knowledge of the ~~shape~~ value of the ground on the right & left could possibly be ascertained, and it probably the General remained totally ignorant of it during the action, as well as of the strength of the enemy.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the panic which seized on the regular troops; on the first attack, is not the most wonderful. They were wholly unacquainted with marching & fighting in the woods; the fatal fire from the two ~~woods~~ and ravines, attacked with the ~~strange~~ frightful yells of the savages, for the first time heard by the troops, were appalling even to those habituated to such scenes; and the puerile punctilious of the parade in which his troops ~~they~~ had been trained ~~used~~ at home, afforded them no security or advantage; and the fear of the enemy overcame that of their officers.

Panics from less appalling circumstances have been witnessed. Marshal Saxe relates one which occurred at the battle of Friedlongen ~~which~~ as was related to him by Marshall Villars. Viz. After the French infantry had ~~had~~ repulsed the Imperialists with unparalleled fortitude, totally routed and pursued them through a wood into a plain which lay on the other side, some one upon the appearance of two squadrons of horse (whether friends or foe was not known) cried out. We are cut off!

upon which these victorious troops instantly abandoned their triumphs and took to flight in the most dreadful confusion, without being either attacked or pursued by a single person- repassed the wood with the utmost precipitation, and never once halted till they got beyond the field of battle; nor was it possible for the Generals to rally them though they attempted it. See [ ] mad Europe Vol. 2 p 310: Also See Saxe's memoirs on the art of war panics of this kind are indeed singular, and not readily explained; and that above related, is more extraordinary than that of Braddock's troops~

The ground where Braddock was defeated is still known and often visited by travelers. The ravines in which the French and Indians were concealed may still be seen: they are from 8 to 10 feet deep and of sufficient extent to contain at least 1000 men. Indeed at the present day, although the place is cleared from trees & converted into pasture, the ravines are perceptible only at a short distance. the northern extremities about 150 yards from the bottom of the hill. See appendix to Vol. 2d of Washingtons letters by Sparks Gen. Braddock was buried in the road; the spot still pointed out within a few yards of the present National Road, and about a mile west of the site of Fort Necessity at the Great meadow. (50 miles from F. Cumberland)

See  
Sketch  
page  
137

Sunday 12 Last night a considerable fall of rain Morn fair wind NW. Same in the afternoon & warm.

Monday 13. Morn fair wind SW. Afternoon the wind veered to NW & continued fair, with thin [ ] clouds. [ ] 80°

To the account of Braddock's Defeat given under Saturday last, the following (from Mr Spark's appendix) found by him in the archives of the war department, at Paris, should be added. The numbers engaged on the part of the French was as follows as given in two accounts: The largest 250 French and Canadians and 640 Indians; and the smallest 233 French and Canadians and 600 Indians. If we take a median it will make the whole number led out by Capt. M de Beaujeu at least 850. An imperfect account makes the loss killed and wounded thus: killed, 3 officers & 4 wounded; about 30 soldiers and Indians killed, and as many wounded. Besides the commander, there were two Captains (Dumas and Liguery), four Lieutenants, six Ensigns & two Cadets. The detachment marched from the French fort early in the morning of the action, and took their position in the ravines, about the time the English were preparing to cross the river. Thus it appears that 850 of the enemy were taking a position for an attack, within half a mile of Braddock's route and he unapprised of their proximity. A cautious officer would

have avoided this error." A good General, said Conde may be beaten, but he can never be surprised."

In later times our armies have traversed the woods, in all directions, without disasters: Witness the expeditions of Sullivan, Wayne, Harrison and others. The defeat of Gen. St. Clair in the State of Ohio in 1791, is by some supposed to be an exception and similar to Braddock's. This is by no means correct: St Clair's Army was judiciously encamped ~~and~~ but overpowered by superior numbers; and the greatest portion of his troops were undisciplined militia, part of whom had deserted his camp the day previous to the action. In the loss of officers and men, baggage and artillery, the two actions were not dissimilar. But it is believed there was no want of vigilance on the part of the commander, nor any panic among the regular troops. The victory it must be confessed was owing to the obstinate ~~bravery~~ and persevering bravery of the Indians, who, aside from their barbarous treatment of the wounded and prisoners, could not but command the applause of civilized men ~~on the~~ for the brave defense of their Country.

The defeat of Braddock's Army was a surprising as it was extraordinary. When the army assembled at Fort Cumberland, consisting ~~of~~ at it was supposed, of a large proportion

of the best disciplined troops, under a skillful General and able subordinate officer, and though the march through a wild country infested with hostile Indians, was considered arduous, no one conceived it possible that the Army could be defeated by any force the French could bring against it. The event was like the shock of an earthquake to the Provinces, and left the frontiers exposed to the incursions and depredations of the enemy. In a letter from Col. Washington, written to a friend soon after the action, he says, “we but a few moments before, believed our numbers almost equal to the Canadian force. I join with you in believing, that when the story comes to be related in future annals, it will meet with unbelief and indignation, for had I not been witness to the fact on that fatal day, I should scarcely have given credit to it even now” But unfortunate as it was, one favorable circumstance resulted from it. An officer whose military genius had already begun to dawn, was brought fully into public view. Here Col. Washington commenced a career [—] of glory which was consummated by his most wonderful services in our revolution, and the establishment of our federal Government. His wonderful escape from  
the

the deadly fire of the enemy in the bloody battle, has been attributed to the interference of a special Providence. Early in the action two aids of the General had been disenabled by wounds, and Washington, the only remaining one, was left to transmit his General's orders to the various parts of the field. In this arduous duty he was seen galloping in all directions in the midst of the murderous fire, his cloths [ ] ed with balls and sometimes his horse shot under him. delivering the General's orders to the officers of the corps engaged, and exerting himself to rally and reform the panic struck troops, his anxious friends eyeing him & every moment expecting to see him fall; yet he escaped without a wound, and was the only officer on horseback who was not killed or wounded. The story of the Indian chief, related fifteen years after the battle, of his repeated shots made at ~~the~~ Washington during the struggle, as well as those of his young warrior, is well known. It was related by the Chief to Dr. Craik, who was in the Battle, and in presence of Washington. It is generally said that the Indians were armed with Rifles, but I believe, at that time the common hunting musket was their only firearm ~~powerful weapon~~. The rifle not then in use.

Tuesday 14—Morn fair wind easterly the same  
in the afternoon, with breeze south [    ]  
fair and calm.

Attending an examination of the scholar at our Academy in the afternoon, one of the students (Miss Phila Russell who is attending to the French language) presented a translation from a French Author, of an account of Gen Braddocks defeat, from which it appears, that “while the English were preparing to pass the Monongahela, at what has since been called Braddocks ford, he perceived up on the opposite shore, some Indians who seemed to defy the English by their insulting gestures, and who retired in proportion as the enemy advanced.

Braddock gave orders to pursue them. Col. Washington who hence in what manner the French aided by the Indians directed their attack, saw all the danger that would befall the troops and intreated the General to wait, at least, that the Virginia scouts might examine the forest.

Braddock disclaimed this wise council and began to effect a passage, but they had not reached the shore when the balls of a hidden enemy burst upon the ranks of those who had so impudently conducted



to the entrance of the valley, where the French and Indians concealed behind the thick underwood were able, safely to fire upon them. In an instant the terrible war whoop of the Indians was heard, and they hurried with their allies upon the troops of Braddock, pursuing them even to the banks of the Monongaheea.”

This narrative cannot be correct; for no Indians were seen before the attack was made upon Gage’s advance party the upwards of half a mile from the river. From the translation of a written French account, obtained at the War Department in Paris by Mr Sparks, it appears that it was the intention of the French commander to attack Braddock at the ford; but it happened, however that he and his party did not arrive at the defiles on the high ground, until the English were preparing to cross the river, and therefore, they proceeded no further than the ravines, where the attack actually commenced. Had the attack been made at the ford, ~~probably~~ the ambuscade would have been avoided, and the English have repulsed the enemy with small loss on their part, by the fire of their artillery across the river & without coming to close action.

Wednesday

Wednesday 15. Morn fair wind south;- the nights are becoming more cool. Afternoon sky overspread with thin clouds. At Sun set clouds thick indicating rain.

County Convention.

This Convention consisting of men from most of the towns in the County of Franklin, assembled at Greenfield this day; in compliance with the public notice to express their sentiments on the late License Law, and to take measures for its repeal at the next sitting of the Legislature.

The Convention was large and said to consist of respectable members. Committees were chosen for each town to aid in the choice of representatives who [ ] opposed to the law; and resolutions were passed, as I am informed.

The extravagant use of ardent spirits as a drink, and the drinking occasioned by it, is evidently a great evil in this, as well as some other countries. To check on ~~and~~ cure the evil, the friends of order and well regulated society in this country, have for several years been making laudable exertions by forming what are called temperate societies, and by moral [ ] they have done much to effect their object. But, led on by a hasty zeal in  
the

the cause, and believing that the public were ready for the experiment, they have by this influence zeal induced the Legislature to enact a law, which prohibits the sale of ardent spirits by any ~~many by retailers~~ in a quantity less than fifteen gallons. The law, as was foreseen by many reflecting men, is becoming unpopular, if not an infringement on the constitutional right of the people; and probably will be repealed at the next session of the Legislature. It is found to be unequal in its operation, by depriving the poor man of what he supposes a necessary beverage, while the moneyed man can freely indulge in his 15 gallons stored in his cellar. The law it is true, permits the sale of the article, in a quantity less than 15 gallons, by licensed apothecaries and physicians, for medical purposes and in the mechanic arts. But how is the design of the purchaser to be made known to the legal setter? Is he to be furnished with a certificate from a physician in cases of sickness, or from a chemist in case the spirit is wanted for the arts? And is he who has made a moderate use of spirits during a long life, and who wants say, a gallon of pure brandy in a year, to apply

to a physician to prove that it is necessary or useful for him, while he is as competent judge of its effect upon himself as the physician? This would be absurd & degrading, and an abuse of the common sense of honest men~

The law, to be consistent, should prohibit the sale of ardent spirits in any quantity as a beverage, and then it would be equal in its operation on all classes of men. But it is very questionable whether the Legislature of a State, has power to do this, so long as Congress allows ~~of the~~ importation of Spirits into the U States.

In regard to the expediency or inexpediency of the law, much may, and has been, said; but I am convinced that under all the circumstances of the case the law fails under the letter head; and that the temperance cause will be much injured by it.

It will produce a reaction and opposition to temperance, which would not have been found, had ~~were~~ the means used been confined to moral [ ], which was producing a wonderful effect~

The chief cause of the excessive use of ardent spirits, is from an indulgence of the young, at a time when no other  
stimulus

stimulus is required than good food and simple drinks. Let them abstain from spirits ~~them~~ until ripened age, and they will seldom, or never feel an appetite, which is alone created by their improper use of them. If in advanced age, spirits are moderately used, by those who have never created an appetite for them, while young, they will seldom be ~~used~~ drank to excess; and when the nerves are becoming rigid, ~~and~~ the vital powers inactive, and the body “weaving away to the land of the [    ]”, a due degree of ardent stimulus may be beneficial; though this useful effect, will be lost on those who have freely indulged in them in their youthful days. To the notion that pure wine cider, and mild beers, are injurious to health, or morals, I am no convert: On the contrary, I think if drank in moderate quantities, they are useful to the laborious man at all times, but less so to the young for whom good food is the best stimulus.

The temperance cause has my best wishes for its success; and no force used but public opinion, duly expressed and gently ~~enforced~~ applied.

Thursday 16 Cloudy morn, with moderate rain, and southerly wind air cool Rain continued through the day. Cloud away in the evening.

Friday 17 Morn fair & very clear; wind west to SW. air moderately warm. Heavy clouds appeared in the west about noon threatening a shower. but they soon past over and the afternoon was clear with a brisk wind.

Saturday 18. Morn fair; wind south, but soon veered to the west. Cirro-cumulus and cirro-stratus clouds numerous, and the air cool. Mercury about 76° In the afternoon a few drops of rain from a slight shower which past south of us.

I visited Bloody Brook to examine the Lathrop monument the erection of which was completed yesterday. Nothing now remains to ~~complete~~ finish the work, but raising of the contiguous ground and enacting the fence about it. Its appearance strikes the eye agreeably and I think will meet the expectations of the public.

It is hoped that similar marks of respect, for our fallen heroes, will be seen on other battle fields in this Commonwealth, to preserve them from oblivion into which they are falling.

On conferring with several of the members of the building Committee it was thought proper to invite a general meeting of the inhabitants of the towns within the old limits of Deerfield, on ~~the~~ Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> inst. at Bloody Brook where addresses it is expected will be made, adapted to the occasion, by gentlemen who feel an interest in the creation of the monument. at which time it is intended the appendages of the monument shall be completed.

On this pleasing occasion if no gentleman touches upon similar parts & sentiments, I may offer the following Gentlemen

Assembled as we are to witness the completion of the monument projected three years ago, as a memorial of Capt. Lathrop and the brave men who fell with him by the hands of Philips Indians and his allies, permit me to offer my hearty congratulations on its successful summation.

In the prosecution of the proposed plan we met with discouraging embarrassments; among which was the tardiness of some ~~of the people~~

in this quarter of the Country, [—] from whom liberal aid was, perhaps, too readily anticipated, in defraying the expense of the monument.

But we have at length nearly over come all difficulties, and now behold an appropriate and handsome memorial on the bloody ground which has so long excited the enquiries of the traveler, interested in the early History of our Country: ~~But~~ And No longer will he seek in vain, for the spot where the suffering heroes bled and died, to rescue from the tomahawk and scalping knife the adventurous settlers, who first took up their abode in this, then wild, but now cultivated and ~~and~~ pleasant ~~country~~ region.

The horrid massacre of Capt Lathrop & his Company, made a deep impressions upon the minds of our forefathers: ~~and~~ They often thought of the men who fell in their defense; and though surrounded by formidable foes; and subjected to all the inconveniences and wants of new settlements, they erected/built a small monument on the battle field, to commemorate the event. It was a quadrangular work of brick, covered with a stone slab,  
and



and similar to some of the tombs we ~~often~~ see in old cemeteries; and I believe it had no inscription

It was placed in the angle made by the old Hat field road leading from the battle ground over the present home lots directly to the south and of Sugar Loaf hill, and the present street road. The spot is now within the door yard of mr Ware's House, and within about 20 feet of the Grave of the slain, over which is place ~~the~~ a stone slab, the same which covered the old ~~mon~~ monument now containing a short inscription.

The specific time when this monument was erected is not ascertained; but I believe it ~~may~~ must have been soon after the destruction of Deerfield by the French & Indians, in 1704. When I was a lad it was standing, though in a dilapidated state, and I have ever felt and interest in its history.

The remains of the monument were at length taken from the ground to give place to the dwelling house now occupying ~~the ground~~ it; and since my recollection some efforts ~~have been~~ were made to erect a new one It was proposed to invite the aid of the people in the County of Essex; but nothing effectual was  
done

done until our present successful efforts.

The erection of the present monument, gives me great satisfaction, as I believe it will all who feel an interest in the heart stirring events of our early history; and I hope it will rouse others to similar efforts, to preserve the sites ~~where~~ of places, where important events have occurred in various parts of our Country; and particularly the fields where the most important battles were fought during ~~our~~ the war of our revolution. Monuments of this kind should be durable, plain in their structure, and of moderate expense. Unfortunately that on Bunker Hill, in Charlestown, was projected on a most extravagant scale, and remains unfinished.

On the utility of monuments there is a diversity of opinion. By some it is said, that since the introduction of the art of printing, and the present diffusion of historical knowledge, the storied arm and the animated bust, have become useless; that History will record with fidelity the illustrious actions of him who deserves well of his country; and that his name will be as perpetual as if inscribed

scribed on the most durable stone.

However plausible this may appear to those who have reflected little on the subject, I believe it is generally agreed, by a large portion of mankind, that the memory of the dead is more durably preserved ~~by~~ by appropriate monuments, than by paper records. and the multiplicity of these memorials, seen in our cemeteries, attest the correctness of this opinion.

The impressions made on the mind when viewing these memorials on the ground where the remains of the deceased are deposited, ~~so~~ are more forcible than those ~~when~~ derived from the perusal of biographical history, however exact the characters may be delineated; and in no other way can that keen sensibility be produced, which stimulates the beholder to imitate the virtues of the deceased.

I am fortified in this opinion, by a writer, who seems to possess, in a high degree, this refining sensibility. “There is, says he, a singular pleasure in contemplating the mighty dead who slumber beneath you. It is a pleasure which resembles that of the Eolian Harp heard amidst the repose and tranquility of night. The mind is thrown off its poise and floats along the stream of

time, mellowed and chastened by retrospection.  
 The fame of a great man preserves every thing connected  
 with him from oblivion; and while even the situations  
 of magnificent cities are forgotten we are familiar with  
 the insignificant village that sheltered some humble  
 philosopher, or the rill that quenched the thirst of  
 some indigent bard.”<sup>2</sup>

Is this effect retrospection of no utility? Is it not rather, productive  
 of the purest feelings of the heart that ~~which~~ beats sym-  
 phonious, to the best principles of refined intellect?  
 And in what way can these heavenly ~~sentiments~~ attributes be  
 more forcibly impressed, than by standing at  
 the foot of the humble monument raised over the hero,  
 whose last drop of blood was poured out in the  
 defense of their country!  
 I might enlarge on this subject but perhaps it would be  
 deemed out of place on ~~too tender for~~ this joyful occasion. I leave it, for a different  
~~[—] of the subject~~ and less pleasing view. And if I am severe  
 I hope will pardon me.  
 Men there may be—yes men There are- whose nerves  
 are unstrung to ~~such~~ the refined harmony to which I have adverted; whose hearts  
 beat not in unison with notes of tender sympathy  
 for our fallen heroes and ages: and who can perceive no

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<sup>2</sup> “Letters from Washington on the Constitution and Laws with sketches ...” by a Foreigner, published in 1818. The author of the work is George Watterson. The quote is referring to Watterson's visit to Mount Vernon, and viewing Washington's grave.

attracting charms, but in problems connected with  
 loss and Gain. policies of insurance & compound  
 interest & present worth of annuities ~~and the pur~~  
~~chase of freehold estate.~~ They use, with great dex  
 terity, the signs of plus and minus, and multi  
placation, ad infinitum: They ~~and~~ scan their pros and  
 cons with the acuteness of a profound algebraist  
 at his formulae; and deal only by quid pro  
quo.- Dr Moore in his Book of travels in Europe, re  
 marking upon the people ~~of that country~~ he had met with desig  
 nates them by the appropriate terms of  
 “men who calculate, and men who do  
 not.” The former he admits may be the most useful  
 on the whole; but, he says, for his soul, he cannot  
 but prefer the latter, as his dearest friends have always  
 been found among them. From men of the former description  
~~From such these men~~ little or no aid has been ~~afforded~~ [—] received in the  
 construction of our monument: Their plan has been, that  
 they had nothing to spare ~~to spare~~ for such pur  
 poses: at the same time ~~they have~~, with the eye of  
 the Eagle, they have watched their opportunity and let no ~~opport~~  
 chance slip of pouncing upon their prey, to increase [—] their  
 coffers. Monuments of the finest marble, ornamented  
 with all the graces of ~~the~~ Grecian & Roman Architecture,  
 are to them empty show, and destitute of ~~one pleasing all~~ [—]  
 one pleasing feature. I leave them to their eager pursuits,  
 regretting only, that their cupidity knows no bounds.

But all are not of this description. We have found men whose hearts and hands were open to the finest sympathies of the human mind, and who freely responded to our wishes: And with ~~it~~ great pleasure: I give the name of a generous ~~[ ]~~ donor, the Hon. Peter C Brook of Boston, who presented one hundred dollars towards defraying the expence of the monument. Liberality like this, will not be forgotten. May his name be as lasting as the monument which owes so much to his generosity. The names of other liberal ~~generous~~ donors might be given/mentioned, were ~~not~~ they not too numerous.

One Gentleman known I cannot pass over, to whom we are indebted for exertions, without which the monument would have slumbered in the quarries of Berkshire, until we should have met with public frowns which in fact, ~~had in fact~~ were already ~~longer~~ ~~[ ]~~ ~~breaking upon taken hand~~ our ears in taunting epithets, at the delay of the work. Need I name the leading architect, Martin Woods, who, this day, has put the finishing hand to the ~~work~~ monument with a compensation, much less than his faithful services merit. He will be remembered with grateful feelings; and may he long live to continue his useful services.

Before

Before I close, permit me to add a few remarks  
in relation to the inscription placed on the monument.

On consulting the histories of Philips war, the number of men slain with Capt Lathrop were found to be given with some variations

1.	Hubbard states Lathrop's force at about	80
	To which add the teamsters from Deerfield	<u>18</u>
	as given by others, the whole number No will be	98
	From which deduct the men who escaped,	<u>8</u>
	Gives for the slain	<u>90</u>
2.	By an account given in Drake's Book of the Indians" compiled from various sources the whole force under Lathrop including teamsters, was	} 88
	Deduct the men who escaped	
	Gives for the slain	<u>8</u> 80
3.	In a note at the end of Governor Everett's late address at Bloody Brook, we have the names of the slain of Lathrop's company, amounting to	59
	To which add the teamsters	<u>18</u>
	Gives for the slain	<u>77</u>
	To this add the men who escaped	<u>8</u>
	Gives the whole force under Lathrop	85

See page 71 et seq from which [ ]  
taken

The numbers taken from the last account, are probably the most correct, and are inserted in the inscription.

In his ~~this~~ History of ~~the~~ Philips war, Increase Mather says “above 60 persons were buried in one dread ful grave.” It is supposed there is another grave on the field of battle, which has not been found, and this agrees with some traditional ac counts.

The inscription would have been more full had there been room on one face of the monument. The closing lines of poetry, are ~~are taken~~ from Lord Byron’s as was noted by the orator of the day; and Sanquinetto which might have been rendered Bloody Brook, is retained, as a less repulsive name for the adjacent rill in the swamp where the Indians lay in ambush and commenced the attack on Lathrop immediately After he passed it ~~the brook~~, the wagons in his rear extending 50 or 60 rods back on the road, were probably seized by the Indians concealed ~~secreted~~ in the swamp, that distance north of the point where Lathrop crossed ~~the brook~~ at ~~near~~ the monument. Note This was delivered at the dinner table after Mr Lincolns address.



Sunday 19. Morn fair, northern breeze. last night cool, the day fair throughout; calm at sun set

Monday 20. Morn fair and northerly breeze. Fair through the day, moderately warm, & calm at sunset.

Our Corn crop appears to be [     ], some of the early sort is in fact ripe, and after a little sun drying is fit for grinding. The potato crop is said to be defective in all the Northern states, so far as I have accounts from them. Perhaps our high mountain lands may be an exception.

Northampton papers state that the rattle snake is uncommonly plenty at and about Mount Tom & that many have been killed during the hot weather. I hear of none in our east woods where they come formerly plenty. I once killed one of these reptiles in a field of Peas and oats, near the old ferry place in our North meadows. As I was mowing the crop and finishing the last swath in the center of the field I struck my sythe over him, when he gave me his tail signal, which apprised me of his ambuscade and gave me the choice of attack: and in a charge with the bayonet I put him hors du combat, without the loss of a man. What a gallant Victory! But

But to be serious, these reptiles are no enviable neighbors in new countries where they are sometimes found in abundance especially in the southern states, and of large sizes.

Without their signal, which I believe they always give before the attack, they would be dangerous to the farmer. When approached they throw themselves into a coil, elevate their head and tail, and are ready for battle, and their appearance and loud whizzing, is truly appalling. I have seen a dog play round them, as if conscious of the danger of their bite, without an attempt to grapple with them; and I believe they do not attack them in any case; but they will seize ~~attack~~ the black snake without hesitation. Is this conduct of the dog from instinct or does he reason like man?

It is a remarkable fact that hogs will attack and destroy the rattle snake with safety, and their bite does not seem to be poisonous to the ~~hog~~ animal, of which the serpent seems to possess an instinctive dread.

Oils are said to be good antidotes to their poison; and the hog being a fat animal, may not this poison be counteracted by the animal oil?

Sunday 21. Morn cloudy wind southerly. Afternoon air hot Afternoon sky overspread & some lightning & thunder appeared to rain in the South.

Last evening about 10 o'clock, the grist mill of Col and Major Stebbins, situated in our South Meadow, took fire and was consumed: the loss must be considerable to the owners, and a great deprivation to the town at large, as the mill was the chief place for grinding their grain, which in the course of a year, is no small quantity. Should the owners decline to rebuild, the loss to the inhabitants will be severely felt.

The lack of mill sites in this town, has been felt from the first settlement, and in our old town records, we find that many schemes were adopted for obviating the difficulty. Grants and privileges were sometimes voted to men, on condition that they should erect a suitable grist mill at certain places; but a sufficient mill was not erected within the limits of the present town until the Stebbins built that which was burnt last night~ present mill site is considered rather precarious, from its alluvial position, where there is no permanent rocks for the dams, and from the

difficulty of maintaining the present long dam, across the river at the foot of Stillwater, on a gravelly bottom; and it is a question whether a safer place for this dam ~~across the river~~, might not be found at or near, the head of Stillwater, and by a canal on the south side, a sufficient current diverted to supply a mill at the foot of the hills above what we call foots ferry. The expense of such a work might be too great; but the suggestion requires consideration. A good mill is indispensably necessary for the town; and without one, I think, it must be admitted that our farms will sink in their present value. In what manner the mill caught fire is not known but probably from an adjoining {—} machine shop, in which workmen had been employed in the evening with candles.

Wednesday 22. Morn foggy & warm; soon cleared off wind north. Day fair & hot through out with little wind. At Sunset calm and pretty warm.

Extracts from Warren Jenkins Gazetteer of the State of Ohio published 1837~ Maumee River is formed by the confluence of the Little Saint Joseph's, Saint Mary's and

and great and little Anglaize rivers, and is about 100 miles long and its average width, for 50 miles from its mouth is about 70 rods. It is navigable at all seasons of the year, for schooners and steam boats to Perrysburg in Wood County, 18 miles from the Lake (Erie), and boatable in the Spring & fall to Fort Wayne. from Giliad at the head of the rapids 18 miles above Perrysburg and Maumee City. It is one of the largest and most beautiful rivers in the State, if not the finest. From the nature of the country and the character of the improvements in progress, there can be no doubt but the Maumee valley will be one of the richest of the State of Ohio.

Wabash and Erie Canal, is now in rapid progress towards completion (60 feet wide 6 feet deep) from Man hatten, along the west side of the River to a point near Defiance. Is to be completed in 1840. The whole length from Lafayette, in Indiana, to the mouth of Maumee river 192 miles, 105 being in Indiana & 87 in Ohio. Fort Recovery ~~in~~ Darke County at the NW corner, is on the site of St Clairs Battle with the Indians in 1791. A creek runs from it, northerly into a branch of the Wabash.

We this day hear of the death of Lemuel Henry Russell ~~who~~  
~~died~~ at Joseph Clessons or Stebbins house, on the land of my Son  
 and Stebbins', a few miles from Shelbyville, in Illinois, of  
 a fever. He left Deerfield lately and proceeded by the  
 way of Richmond, in Virginia & Ohio river to St. Louis, and  
 thence through Illinois to the place where he died.  
 This death will be considered, by our people here  
 as evidence of the unhealthiness of the Country for  
 northern immigrants. This journey to the Country at an  
 unfavorable season, ~~and~~ when it was very hot, may  
 have been the cause of his sickness, and not the  
 climate of Illinois; for he had been there but a  
 short time. I believe less than a month.

Thursday 23 Morn fair and south breeze. Cumulus  
 clouds from the west & mercury at 90° in afternoon. The Sun  
 set clear, and air calm. No appearance of showers during the day.

Gen. Armstrong's Notices of the war of 1812  
 2d vol. it is said will soon be published. The first has  
 been out upwards of 2 years. I hope his details will be more  
 full and some plans given of the actions &c. The 1<sup>st</sup> vol.  
 is rather too severe in its criticism upon the commanders  
 who had the misfortune to conduct undisciplined militia.

on whom our improvident government chiefly relied, at the commencement of the war, into which it had precipitously plunged us almost wholly unprepared. With a suitable military force, Upper Canada would have fallen into our hands on the first year of the war.

By persisting in this stupid policy, we shall remain a weak military nation, and be liable to misfortunes disgrace in our operations, whenever we come in collision with a powerful nation.

The force to which I have alluded, is by no means a large standing army; but a well organized select militia, trained annually by the U States government ~~and~~ paid for their services and held ready for the field on the shortest notice, as I have so often suggested in my sketch books. The importance of the subject cannot be too often reiterated.

Friday 24 Morn foggy wind south. At 10 oclock fair, the wind brisk. Afternoon sky overspread and light thunder shower at 4 oclock, until which the day was hot. Cumulo stratus clouds at Sun set. Mercury 94 (maximum)  
Poems by Josiah D. Canning 1 vol. 12 m 205 pages.  
 just published by Phelps and Ingersoll, Greenfield.

This

This little vol. I purchased yesterday of a Pedler for one shilling. The author is a young man, son of Rev. Mr Canning (formerly Mr. Cannon) of Gill. His age I am informed about 20 years.

Of the merits of poetical writings I do not profess to be a critical judge; yet I must say there is something in them ~~it~~ that struck me agreeably and sometimes powerfully, though I ~~can unfortunately~~ cannot say technically why. With many of Mr. Cannings ~~these~~ poems I am pleased, and it appears to me that if the young man has not arrived at excellence, a little more age will enable him to do it. In several of his poems he evinces an antiquarian taste which harmonize well with my own. The lines to a Bullet formed on Turners battle ground at the falls in Gill, and his Logan, are to my ear apposite. In the latter the versification {—} of the speech of the Chief, comes fully up to the original as given by Jefferson.

“I fearless appeal to the whiteman to say  
If he e’er from my cabin went hungry away;  
If I lent to his wo an unpitying ear,  
Or wiped not his eye from the grief-bidden tear.”



“My love to the whiteman was steadfast and true,  
 Unlike the deep hatred my red brothers knew;  
 With him I had thought to have cherish’d my home,  
 No more o’er the forest or prairie roam.”  
 The conduct of the whites, however, changed his good feelings  
 towards them, and again roused his vengeance.  
 “As lurketh the wolf, unprovoked, for his prey,  
 So sadly in ambush the white traitor lay;  
 No soul of my ill fated kindred remains  
 There runs not a drop of my blood in their veins!

“This woke me to vengeance—to vengeance I rose;  
 ‘Mongst whitemen I sought for my bitterest foes,  
 The ghosts of the dead are appeased by their sire,  
 I have glutted my vengeance, but scorn to retire.”

“I joy for my country that peace should appear,  
 But harbor no thought like the gladness of fear;  
 Longan’s heart is a stranger to cowardly strife-  
 He turns not his heel for the saving of life.”  
 Some of the sentiments of the poet on the abolition of slavery  
 are not in accordance with my feelings Poeta

“Poeta nascitur non fit” is an old proverb, and Mr Canning may be a further proof of its correctness: but his genius will ~~may~~ be improved by study and practice And if “Madam Poesy” first roused, {—} him to “Sing of New England, favored land!

Her customs, dear her social band

Her everlasting hills that stand

above her meads,

As when at first, by His command

They reared their heads.”‡

We think he has made no tardy progress towards excellence. In his prophecy of the fate of our union, we hope he will prove ~~incorrect~~ uninspired.

“Brother shall lift his hand against his brother,

And hostile states shall war with one another.

New England shall withdraw from out the fight,

And rear herself against opposing might;

And when these promis’d threat’nings shall be done

She shall elect a ruler of her own.” †

This is a possible event, but let us hope an inprobable one. Let our poets predict something more soothing to the patriot

‡See his Vision of Poisy page 17 | † Prophecy page 9.

patriot, since human disasters are sometimes celebrated by a strong impression that they are to occur. As respects the future prospects of the United States we think they are far from gloomy. Parties will always exist, particularly in free governments; ~~and~~ the artful and unprincipled will try to thrust themselves into places of power and in some instances they may for a short time deceive the unsuspecting part of community. But the grand ligament of our union is the self interest of the people, and so long as this ~~exists is found~~ [ ] ~~the Union~~ is cherished by the Confederacy of the States, so long ~~so long~~ will they ~~shall~~ remain “E pluribus Unum”.

Mr. Canning has taken Burns for his pattern. and we think he has often been successful in the resemblance. In his second Epistle to Minstrel Swan the four verses (page 186) beginning with “An’ gif ye hae no gat aboon,” he has very happily touched the stream of his prototype. We hope he will continue to “Sing of thy ancient, noble state | Her patriotic fire innate,  
Her learned sons renowned great | That burns to save!”  
Her patriotic dead, whose fate | [ ] Vision of Poesy, page 21.  
Your freedom gave- |

Saturday 25 Morn fair wind gentle at south. In the shower of afternoon yesterday, a considerable hail fell in the north part of our North Meadow.

The fall of hail in hot weather excites our surprise, and seems difficult to explain. Mr Leslie, a meteorologist, proposes an explanation of the manner in which the congelation takes place. He says, "If we examine the structure of a hailstone, we shall perceive a snowy kernel incased by a harder crust. It has very nearly the appearance of a drop of water suddenly frozen, the particles of air being driven from the surface towards the centre. Where they form a spongy texture. This circumstance suggests the probable origin of hail, which is perhaps occasioned by rain falling through a dry ~~stratum~~ ~~stratum~~ and very cold stratum of air." See Edinburgh Encyclopaedia, Vol. 13, page 184.

If it be true that the upper regions of the atmosphere in the hot summer weather are of a temperature below that of freezing, may not the rain which falls from elevated clouds, be solutions of flakes of snow in passing through air of a higher temperature? Thus in the fall season, we sometimes see snow fall on the tops of

mountains and at the same time we have rain in the valleys. In the case ~~fall~~ of hail the time ~~gives~~ for the solution of the ice, in its rapid descent ~~fall~~, is too short, and it reaches the ground in its solid state. In whatever manner hail is formed in the atmosphere, it is certain its congelation must be very rapid; for it cannot be suspended for a moment after it is formed, unless driven about by strong contrary winds. The masses of ice which fall, are sometimes of several ounces ~~in~~ weight, and reach the earth with a dangerous momentum~

In the afternoon clouds overspread the sky, and about 3 oclock a shower from the west, with strong wind, and lightning and thunder frequent. a considerable fall of rain. Perhaps the greatest thunder shower which has occurred at our village ~~street~~ this season. The ground previous to the shower was very dry and vegetation began to suffer. The clouded canopy still continuing, how refreshing is the air!- the animal spirits revive, and we awake from our torpor to inhale the ~~cool~~ atmosphere now perfectly calm! No disturbing force is now perceived, and a general equilibrium seems to prevail.

The

The shower of this afternoon, I am informed, was attended with high wind, much lightning and hail, on our hills west, and some window glass was broken in the storm. I noticed no hail at my dwelling, but others say a small quantity fell. John Jones house struck with lightning (Wisdom) at 6 o'clock a second shower with some lightning but air nearly calm, and rain short. Fire struck at Wappin

Sunday 26 Morn fair, NW wind and air cool. and the day through out very pleasant. Cirro cumulus clouds sweep briskly across the sky and no signs of showers appear; and we flatter ourselves the hot season is nearly past. At sunset the air so cool that fire would be grateful. This change must be owing to the descent of the upper air in the showers of yesterday. In most cases of showers this summer, the heat of this air has not been much affected; strong winds have seldom accompanied them & [ ] I infer no descent of the upper air happened as I think must generally be the case in very heavy showers, when the weather is extremely hot; especially when they are composed of massy cumulus clouds, particularly covering the sky. In very extended showers this does not often occur.

Monday 27. Partially cloudy at sun rise a halo sun; wind southerly, and air cool. Nimbus clouds soon covered the heavens, seemingly from a sudden condensation of the atmosphere vapor. At 10 oclock A.M. mercury 56 cool enough for fires in sitting rooms. Rain afternoon though moderate; increased at night.

Notice of Major Robert Rogers from Washington's Letters by J. Sparks Vol. 4- page 526.

Surprise at Mamaronce Oct. 1775—Col. Haslets account "On Monday night, Lord Stirling ordered me out with 750 men to attack the enemy's outposts ten miles from this place, at the village of Mamaronce; which was done and the guards forced. We brought on 36 prisoners a pair of colours, 60 stand of Arms, and a variety of plunder besides. The party we fell in with was Col. Rogers' the late worthless major. On the first fire he skulked off in the dark. His Lieutenant, and a number of others, were left dead on the spot. Had not our guards deserted us on the first onset, he and his whole party must have been taken. On our side three or four were left dead and about 15 wounded. Among the latter is Major Green of the second Virginia regiment, wounded in the shoulder; Capt

Pope, who acted as Major, and behaved with great bravery, wounded in his leg; both likely to recover. As this was the first effort of the kind, and a plan of his Lordships, he was so highly pleased with our success, that he thanked us publically on the parade.” Letter dated Oct. 28, 1776 (White Plains)  
 For further notice of the Major, See Vol. 3 pages 208, 209, 244, 439 and 440: also Vol. 4 pages 128, 520, 521.  
 See also Heaths memoirs page 75. When it is stated that the ~~Americans~~ force with Haslet were all southern troops. At this time the Americans were disposed to speak slightly of Major Rogers’ former services, he being an enemy; but his reputation for bravery could not be doubted—Mamaronce is in West Chester County, State of New York, 23 miles N.E. of that City, and on Long Island sound, then the right wing of the British army.  
Note Col Haslet commanded the Delaware regiment. Rogers Corps called the Queen’s American Rangers, were enlisted partly on Long Island, and were to serve during the war, and to have their proportion of all rebel lands, and all privileges equal to any of his majesty’s troops. The Corps I believe was soon sent to Canada.



Tuesday 28. Morn fair & many cirro stratus clouds,  
Air calm, considerable rain last night. At 11 o'clock  
a NW wind Mercury 68. Day throughout fair & pleasant.

Died yesterday, at his Father's house, Tristan D Aldrich, Jr.  
aged 21 years, of a pulmonary Consumption. This young  
man had resided sometime among us ~~being~~ as a pupil  
in our academy, ~~and~~ had entered upon the study  
of Medicine with Dr SW Williams and by his ~~and~~  
assiduous attention to the acquirements of science  
and other useful knowledge, had been generally esteemed by  
our people. In the course of the last summer he made  
a tour to the state of Ohio where he practiced some  
time as a Dentist; but becoming dangerously unwell  
of the disease, which seems to have been formed while  
at Deerfield, his father went to Ohio and conveyed  
him home, by the way of the Ohio canal, Lake Erie and  
Buffalo, during the hottest part of the season, a journey  
which we thought he could not survive. The route from  
Cincinnati to Albany was by water, and was less fatiguing  
than if performed by land. He died sometime after his return.  
"So set the sun upon the wanderer's ~~day~~ early day."

Received a Letter from C.O. Boutelle, dated Boston August 26<sup>th</sup> and another from Simeon Borden our Trigonometrical Surveyor at the same place, dated August 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Boutelle is now appointed an assistant to Mr Borden in the construction of the map of the Commonwealth, at 2 dollars pr day and expences of board=about a dollar per day. He promises to send me a sketch of his researches on the Island of Cuttyhawks, for the ruins of Gosnolds fort and Stone house, built by him in 1602, as mentioned by Belknap and Prince. Mentions that the plans of some of the towns made by order of the State, are found to be very inaccurate, and may require corrections by new surveys, as I supposed would be the case; and that he last week received a letter from my son Arthur concerning employment in Illinois.

Mr. Borden, in answer to some queries of mine, sends me a long letter upon the construction & management of Steam boats, pointing out their defects & the causes of the bursting of their boilers; and as in every thing he investigates of a mechanical nature, he evinces accurate knowledge and a searching mind. He is of opinion that steam navigation may be rendered safe

Last evening my daughter Isabella arrived from Boston, and informs that her sister Adeline is considered convalescent. May I hope that her restoration is probable?

Wednesday 29. Morn fair and north breeze. Air cool. Clouds cirro stratus from the west, and day fair throughout. At sun set many stratus clouds, the air ~~nearly~~ calm, and nature seems in deep repose, but still carrying on her curious operations under her adapted laws!

Thursday 30 Morn fair wind N.W. air moderately warm. Afternoon wind south and gentle thunder shower across the south: Wind changed to N.W. brisk.

Friday 31. Morn fair. Air cool wind southerly Afternoon, cirro clouds numerous. A very pleasant day. which I spent at Bloody Brook with a concourse of several kindred people, assembled at the new monument erected to the memory of Capt. Lathrop and his company, to ~~listen~~ ~~to~~ hear an address from Mr Luther B Lincoln the Preceptor of our Academy. The address was eloquently delivered & was elegant, chaste, appropriate and highly gratifying to the audience. A Copy was requested for the press, Mr Lincoln gave us

a full description of the monument and a history of its erection, naming the various Committees that had been raised during the progress of the work. Several addresses were made afterwards at the dining table, and many sentiments given, & all present seemed to enjoy the ~~scene~~ interesting scenes of the day.

In the accomplishment of the monument the antiquary, as well as the man of taste will be gratified and future generations will be able to point to the site of an event interesting in our history. To the descendants of the slain in the County of Essex, the erection of the monument must be particularly gratifying. The slain were valuable men and ought not be forgotten: they will not be forgotten.

“While the fir tree is green & the wind rolls a wave,  
The tear drop shall brighten the turf of the brave.”<sup>3</sup>

The style of the monument varies considerably from the common order as laid down in the books of the architect, and the usual proportions were not preserved. But, is it true that the Grecian & Roman architecture embrace the best possible proportions for durability and beauty? This I think, to say the least, is doubtful. That the architecture of these

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<sup>3</sup> Rev. Thomas C. Upham, occasioned by a visit to Maine and the site of Lovewell's fight.

nations is more beautiful than that of Egypt and some of the eastern Nations of Asia, I think will be admitted by men of taste; but the question with me is whether the architecture of Greece and Rome has reached the maximum of beauty? And whether even great variations might not be made and the beauty increased thusly? When a standard of beauty is positively fixed the question may be solved. But so long as our tastes, depending on a variety of circumstances are variant, this, it appears to me, cannot be effected.

The monument we have erected consists of Lanesboro marble, excepting the basement, which is Wendell granite, or gneiss. The marble is generally white, and at a small distance appears perfectly so: on a close view some parts appear ~~are~~ a little clouded.

Some of the marble of Berkshire and Vermont is rather soft and gives way by decomposition: but when it bears a good polish it is durable. Many of the ancient structures of Greece are composed of the finest marble, and remain to this day without great decomposition from atmosphere influences, and still exhibits the beautiful touches of the chisel, & wonderful skill of the artists

Saturday 1. Last night considerable rain fell attend with some thunder, and this morn cloudy with fog up on the mountains; Air moderately warm & wind south. Afternoon wind NW and fair throughout at Sun set air calm

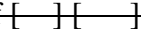
The summer season is now closed, and we look for weather less severe.

“First of the months in sober Autumn; train  
September comes and glads the rural swain;  
For now the heats of burning summer die,  
And finer breezes fill the cooler sky.”

Notwithstanding the summer has been hot, it has not been unhealthy: some cases of dysentery have occurred but not more than is common in hot seasons. Had the summer been wet as well as hot, the case might have been different. Autumnal fevers may follow, though of late years, they are not very frequent in this part of the country.

This day a Caravan of 16 waggons conveying rare animals past our village ~~street~~ for Greenfield, where these animals are to be exhibited: Among which is ~~was~~ an Elephant of the usual size. The magnitude of this animal always

surprises our people who seldom see them, & of course many are willing pay a small sum of money for a view of them; more especially those who have not attended to the descriptions given by authors on zoology. Accurate descriptions with good plates of the animals, will give intelligent readers a good idea of their forms and structure: but it is essential that the drawings should be executed with skill; and here many works on natural history are defective.

Delicate engravings on copper or steel, no doubt give the best representations, and when colored according to life, the resemblances are very striking. The substitution of wood-cuts, as being less expensive, and serve well for animals, when executed by a skillful workman, and are now much used; but for representing the human countenance they are very defective. Here the most delicate touches of light and shade are necessary to give the expression which is peculiar to the human countenance of  With other animals this is not the case, there being no passion to represent; and if the contour and color be nearly exact, we find no difficulty in recognizing the resemblance, ~~any~~ more than in the representation of a

tree, building, landscape or other inanimate object. And here we may perceive the difference between the portrait painter, and him who paints objects that require no expression of intelligence. Like the poet, the portrait painter is, in a great degree indebted to nature for his skill. But may perfect it.

Sunday 2. Morn fair air cool wind West & brisk in the afternoon. Clouds cirro stratus. At sun set the air indicates a frost.

Monday 3. Morn fair & cool. Wind N.W. mercury 56. Day very clear throughout Sun set calm, air moderately warm.

Tuesday 4- Morn fair, calm & cool wind gentle from north at noon. This morning some frost was seen in low places. The day fine and very clear.

Wrote a letter Mr. Boutelle, in the office of Mr. Borden No. 14 State House Boston & forward by Mr. French) including enquiries concerning the delineation of the map of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and various remarks in relation to it; and particularly how far the astronomical observations of Mr Paine would afford aid in the construction of the map. Of the accuracy of this astronomy



I have no doubt. But it has appeared to me that his determination of the latitudes and longitudes, however exact, of a few places in the state, had little connection with Mr. Borden's geodesic surveys; and that the positions of the points of the primitive {—} triangles would be more exactly determined by trigonometrical calculations. The latitude & longitude of the state House in Boston being well fixed, all other points in the triangles may be counted from it, ~~and~~ The curvature of the earth's surface within the limit of the state will produce, but in a small degree variations from a plane. There will be a small convergence of meridians; but the lines of latitude may be ~~drawn~~ parallel right lines without any great error. The Longitudes I trust, will be counted from the meridian of Greenwich, instead of Washington City, as more convenient in the study of Geography.

Wednesday 5. Morn fair, breeze from the west air moderately warm- Afternoon warm & very clear calm at sunset.

Thursday 6 morn fair wind north; the day warm ~~and~~ throughout, and a cloud hardly seen

To

To the account of Braddocks defeat given in this Sketch ending page 90, the following from Hoffman's "Winter in the west" should be added. This traveler being at Pittsburg Nov. 1833, visited the Battle ground with a party of Gentlemen. His description of the field corresponds pretty nearly with Mr Sparks', as given in the 2d Vol. of Washington's letters. The present aspect is described as follows. "It is but a few years since the wood, was cut from the side hill, and traces of the conflict are still occasionally discovered in the grove along the margin of the river below. I was told, too, that bones and bullets, with rusted knives, hatchets and bayonets were sometimes even yet turned up by the plough on the spot where the fight was hottest. The central enclosure was cleared about 17 years since. It was heavily timbered at the time, and they tell in the neighborhood that the teeth of the saws in the mills adjacent were continually broken upon the balls imbedded in the ancient trees. Quantities of human bones and rust eaten weapons are said to have been found beneath the surface of the soil, when the plough first invaded this memorable wood. A prettier spot to fight on never greeted the

the eye of a soldier. The undulations of the field are just sufficient to exercise a nice military discrimination in the choice of position, which the ground is yet so little broken that cavalry might act on any part of it to advantage. The center of the battle-field would command a fine view of the river, were but a vista or two cut in the wood below; and even now it offers a beautiful site for a private residence, and would, with the lands adjacent, make a noble park. There are a few superb oaks still standing at the foot of the slope, which might constitute a lawn, and what must enhance the value of the place with all faithful ghost-believers and pious lovers of the marvellous- the dim form of the red savage, with the ghastly spectre of his pallid victim shrinking before it, it is said, may be seen gliding at times among these hoary trunks. The exercising light of noon most perversely shone down among them while I lingered near the spot, but I could fancy that the November wind which sighed among their branches was charged at times with a wailing sound, such—such in fact as an orthodox tree in a perfect state of health would

would never make of its own accord.”

“The stump of the tree against which Braddock leaned after being struck is still pointed out in a wheat field above the highway; he had advanced some distance up the hill, and was carried off by the fleeing troops.”

Braddocks tree should have been preserved, but it is doubtful whether the real spot is known. Some person, however, who was in the action, might have pointed it out on visiting the field: perhaps Genl. Washington who passed over the ground 15 years after the battle, in a journey to the Ohio to examine his lands on that river.

The Country on Braddocks route from fort Cumberland on the Potomack to Pittsburg is now much cleared and cultivated, and many flourishing towns are seen in various parts of it, & the Monongahela is ascended some distance by steam boats at high stages of water~

Friday 7 Morn fair with a low fog and northerly breeze. The day warm and clear throughout & maybe called hot in the afternoon: wind veered to the SW. Ground rather dry.

Saturday 8 Morn cloudy Wind northerly. Sun out occasionally, but cloudy most of the day. Air moderate & smoky.

Sunday 9 Morn ~~fair~~ cloudy wind south. Sun out before noon & a ~~hazy~~ sky hazy which continued through the day- After sun set a few stratus clouds in the west, a warm and pleasant day.

In our country villages, Sunday is a solitary Day. After the people have returned from Church, scarcely an individual is seen in the streets and the farmers improve the time in rest, and have ~~time~~ an opportunity to read and reflect. Whether they improve it to the best advantage may be a question. Much depends on the clergyman to whose discourses they listen. If he be a man of general knowledge & sound morals he may suggest ~~infor~~ topics for consideration, and may be useful. Too many however dwell on subjects that tend to no useful improvement, and sometimes disquiet their hearers by their dogmatization and enthusiasm. Too many cloud their discourses with ~~by~~ mysteries, which instead of enlightening the mind, dashen ~~it with~~ and bewilder it. This is however, peculiar to certain sects who repudiate the reasoning powers of men as naturally depraved & corrupt, and in capable of discerning the truth by human efforts. A system

which tends to keep the mind in a fog, and retards the progress of genuine religion. A more natural system is now taught by a partian of our Clergy, and where men dare ~~to~~ think for themselves it is making progress, and elevating the human faculties to a stand and worthy of rational beings. That dogma which denies to man a capability of performing his duty, cannot exist where extensive knowledge is found, and freedom of opinion is unshackled by laws That man are accountable for their thoughts and actions, and at the same time incapable of regulating them without supernatural aid, is a proposition too absurd to be urged upon common sense.

In the choice of a clergyman I would select one of General science as well as of literature, and if possible allow him a salary that should render him easy in his circumstances, that he might, without embarrassment, pursue his studies. But in most of our Country towns, the people are not well able to do this, and of course they ~~take~~ select men who are not always were qualified for instructors, and often those who are below the acquirements of many of these hearers. Such, though, they maybe stocked with enthusiasm, afford little

aid to men of enlightened minds, and often cast a shadow where light is wanted. In saying this I would not be understood as depreciating the acquirement of all of our country clergymen, some of whom possess talents much beyond the compensation they receive for their services.

Monday 10. Morn somewhat cloudy but the sun out early in the forenoon, and wind brisk at south brings warm air in the afternoon. Fair till night.

Tuesday 11 Foggy morn soon clear wind northerly after noon cloudy, the day pleasant.

Yesterday recd. a letter from my son Arthur dated September first at Paris Illinois. He states that his settlement comes on tolerably well, a little sickness, but not near as much as prevails over most of the Country in the months of August and September. On this subject he is brief, and is now balancing in his mind whether after he has completed his rail roads to return to Deerfield and reside here, or to purchase a large farm on the Mississippi and make it his home; Thinks he shall return to Deerfield next summer~

This day Dr Williams and Mr John Williams gave me an invitation to visit an old lady at Northfield, and look over the

sites of the old Indian battle grounds &c in the vicinity: and we proceeded to that place via Greenfield, Bernardston, crossing the Connecticut at Tiffany's ferry. At Northfield we visited the old lady, a few days over 100 years of age, her name Sarah Smith, born at Sutton in the County of Worcester (her maiden name Lilly) the mother of 13 children. She now resides with a Mr Farnsworth and is supported on the charity of some humane people. We found her in bed, with day dress on; but she soon rose and set upon the bed side, and seemed to be pleased that we had called on her. Her mind appeared to be sound, and her recollections of old events pretty good. She had resided in Northfield but about 30 years, and of course was unacquainted with the old affairs of this part of the country. Dr Williams put many inquiries to her in relation to her manner of life, which she answered intelligibly. On informing her we came from Deerfield to see her, she seemed to be affected and expressed much satisfaction. Fearful that our inquiries might fatigue her, we left her with ~~with~~ a cordial shake of the hand, and her best wishes for our future welfare, which she expressed in apo



priate language. Dr. Williams took many notes of the information she gave us, and we were highly gratified at ~~the~~ an interview with an intelligent person of 100 years- An age uncommon in this part of our Country. In her ~~family~~ Bible containing a Register of her family, we were shown a conveyance of it, to {——} Mrs. Bellows which her signature was affixed, in a fair hand, on her centennial birth day~

On our return we took the road east of the Connecticut and proceeded to the ground of Capt. Beer's ambuscade in Sept. 1675, on the old County Road SE of Jones' mills. The place is well known to the inhabitants in the vicinity. The slain were buried on the west side of the road, in a sandy field of so loose a texture as to be disturbed by heavy winds, and even drifted like snow. Here many carcasses have been found, the bones, in a high state of preservation and reinterred, but as the wind seeps off the sand more bones are discovered. Within ~~the space of~~ a square of 10 feet we saw ~~many~~ vertebra, parts of thigh bones and others, so numerous as to whiten the ground. This ~~spot probably was~~ is the spot where the men, who fell in the first attack, were buried.

The preservation of these bones is remarkable and

and probably is owing to the siliceous nature of the soil. One hundred and sixty three years have elapsed since the affair happened, and some of the bones remain quite sound, while those of Lathrop's company (cut off the same year) lately found at Bloody Brook in Deerfield, are nearly changed to terrine substances, easily crumbled to dust by pressure in the hand. The latter however were buried a considerable depth in a teracious soil, sixty or more bodies in one mass A small monument on Beers' Ground, would be gratifying to the antiquary.

Proceeding down the River we crossed at Munn's ferry into the northerly part of Gill, a handsome tract of alluvian, and thence by Gill meeting house to Turner's falls In Gill are many pleasant situations and neat little houses; ~~and~~ about the church is a considerable village, and a deep ravine through which winds the "tributary brook" named by a promising young poet of the place, Wa-pe-sa-pe-na-con‡. The southerly part is rather hilly, and mossy granit rocks are seen in place Lying off the great road the town is rather solitary & not often visited by travelers; but it is exactly calculated for

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‡Canning's Poems page 51

for the residence of the retired philosopher. In my young days the place was called Grass Hill, and here our people formerly drove their young cattle to range, in the fertile woods during the summer season. We were informed that the dysentery was prevalent in the town among children. This we have supposed would not be found epidemic in a place which appeared as the seat of health. We then preceded to turners falls or the great dam

The River being very low, the ~~turners~~ falls appeared placid; without their grandeur the small quantity of water, ~~which flowed~~ passing through the interstices of the lofty dam, built on the pitch of the falls—the dam is now under repair. When the River is at its greatest height, the appearance of the fall over ~~from~~ the dam is sublime, resembling that ~~fall~~ at Niagara up on a smaller scale. Some pretty good views have been given; that in Professor Hitchcocks Geology of Massachusetts I consider the best.

Before the erection of the dams on Connecticut River the millions of shad that ascended turner's falls, in the spring season and were taken in great abundance, as well as Salmon invited hundreds or I may say thousands, of people, to the place ~~turner's falls~~ to procure the fish taken by scoops at Burnhams Rock. On this ground were seen all sorts of people and amusements.

Here was the showman with his perspective views of European cities; the musician the performer of [ ] feats; the sportsman and others of a less innocent nature, such as the gambler and dealer in drams. All this was inviting to the young, and ~~and~~ parties of both sexes were seen in all the gaiety of life. What a contrast now! All has given way, to less [ ] scenes. The fish have ceased to ascend the falls ~~river~~, and the raft and heavy boat are the only objects that command attention. Perhaps however the change is not to be regretted, as tumultuous assemblies are unfavorable to morality.

We spent a short time in viewing the ground on which Turner made his attack on the Indians, and in reflections on the various incidents that took place as given by our historians, then proceeded to Greenfield where the Supreme Court was in session, and there to Deerfield.

The military scenes we had viewed were not new to me, but I was gratified in pointing them out to others less acquainted with them; and it is thus that the sites of places are [ ] and handed down from father to son, (that ought to be remembered): and who, as Dr Johnson ~~says~~ asks can be in different and unmoved when conducted over ground that has been dignified by wisdom, bravery, or virtue?

Wednesday 12. Cloudy and moderate rain through the day, wind north, Air cool. I lighted a fire in my sitting room, the first since the beginning of the warm weather.

Thursday 13. Morn still rainy wind N.W. Clouds broken at 10 o'clock sun appeared. The rain was very opportune and must refresh vegetation and supply our rills with water, many of which had become entirely dry; as I noticed on my trip to Northfield on Tuesday last. At 11 o'clock clear and blue sky. The rain, yesterday and last night, produced a rise in our river so as to flow the low lands. Mr Saxton's grass land at south end of our street was about  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{2}{3}$  covered at noon. What a prodigious quantity of aqueous vapor must be sustained in the atmosphere to produce so heavy a rain? And what produces the condensation of it at one time and not at another? We may conjecture but cannot arrive at certainty.

Such sudden freshets often produce much damage to bridges and crops in our meadows. Instances have occurred in which the meadows have been nearly all flooded, before the crop of corn was gathered, and some of it torn from the soil and carried off, with hay, pumpkins and every thing that would float. Of late years they are uncommon~

Friday 14 Morn fair with a low fog and calm air; at noon a southerly breeze and the day fair throughout, and very pleasant a few cirrus clouds.

On my visit to the Centenarian lady at Northfield, as noted in last Tuesdays journal; antique sensations were produced of an interesting nature, which perhaps would best be described in the language of the poet. But in this species of composition I profess no skill. I might perhaps, suggest sentiments and reflections not inappropriate; but to post them into measure and rhyme according to the rules of poisy, would be a task beyond what I should be willing to undertake.

Compositions of this kind are to me extremely pleasing; and when they relate to actions of Aged heros noted for their exploits, they rouse feelings not easily expressed. But if any of this kind, come up to reality, I think it is found in the Poem of Croma in Macpherson's Ossion; and whether it is in fact, the production of an ancient bard or that of Macpherson, the repeated {—} translation, I shall not here conjure. The poem is as follows.

“Croathar was the petty king of Croma, a country in Ireland, who was famed for his former exploits, but he had become superannuated by years ~~age and~~ lost his sight, and retired from

from active life. Rothmar the chief of Tramlo, learning the feeble state of Crothar, invaded Croma, with the design of annexing it to his dominions. Crothar applied to Fingal the renowned great hero of Scotland for aid, who sent his son Ossian with a body of troops to oppose Rothmar. The expedition was successful and Rothmar slain in battle by Ossian. The scene is laid in Ireland or Irisfail.

The poem opens with a pathetic lamentation of Molvina for her lover Oscar, who had fallen in Battle. She is overheard by Ossian who at length interrupts her and tells her that her song is lovely, "It is lovely O Malvina! but it melts the soul. There is joy in grief when peace dwells in the breast of the soul. But sorrow wastes the mournful, O daughter of Toscar! and their days are few! They fall away like the flower, on which the sun looks in his strength after the mildew has passed over it, when its head is heavy with the drops of night."

To divert her grief, Ossian turns her attention to his own exploits and relates the history of his expedition to Croma to oppose Rothmar. The following is the substance of the story which I shall follow nearly in the language of the [ ] The

“The king commanded; I raised my sails and rushed into the bay of Croma; into Croma’s sounding bay in lovely Inisfail High on the coast arose the towns of Crothar king spears; Crothan renounced in the battles of his youth; but age dwelt then around the chief. Rothmar had once raised the sword against the hero: And the wrath of Fingal burned. He sent Ossian to meet Rothmar in war, for the chief of Croma was the friend of his youth.”

Before Ossian reached Crothar’s residence {—} he sent a bard to him with songs, and soon after himself entered the hall. And ~~The de~~ ~~scription he~~ he gives of ~~the~~ a description of the appearance of the chief. as follows {——}

“There sat the chief amidst the arms of his father’s, but his eyes had failed. His gray locks waved around a staff on which the warrior leaned. He hummed the song of other times, when the sound of our Arms reached his ears. Crothar rose, stretched his aged hand, and blessed the son of Fingal.”

“Ossian! said the hero, “the strength of Crothar’s arm has failed O could I lift the sword, as on the day that Fingal fought at Strutha!—He was the finest of men! but Crothar had also his fame. The king of Morven praised me, he placed on my arm the bossy shield of Calthar, whom the king has slain in his wars. Dost thou not behold it on the wall? for Crothar’s eyes  
have



have failed?" Crothar then enquires about the bodily strength of Ossian: "Is thy strength like thy father's, Ossian? Let the aged feel thine arm."

"Ossian gave his arm to the king; he felt it with his aged hands. The sigh rose in his breast and his tears came down.

"Thou art strong, my son" he said, "but not like the king of Morven! But who is like the hero among the mighty in war. Let the feast of my hall be spread; and let my bards exalt the song. Great is he that is with in my walls, ye sons of echoing Croma." The feast is spread the harp is heard, and joy is in the hall. "But it was joy covering a sigh, that darkly dealt in every breast. It was the faint beam of the moon spread on a cloud in heaven." At length the music ceased, and the aged king of Croma spoke, "he spoke without a tear; but sorrow swelled in the midst of his voice."

"Son of Fingal; behold'st thou not the darkness of Crothar's joy? My soul was not sad at the feast, when my people lived before me. I rejoice in the presence of strangers when my son shone in the hall. But, Ossian, he is a beam that is departed. He left no streak of light behind. He is fallen son of Fingal! in the war of his father. Rothmar, the chief

of

of grassy Tromlo heard that these eyes had failed; he heard that my arms were fixed in the hall, and the pride of his soul arose! He came towards Croma; my people fell before him. I took my arms in wrath, but what could sightless Crothar do? My steps were unequal; my grief was great. I wished for the days that were past. Days! Wherein I fought, and won in the field of blood. My son returned from the case; the fair haired Fovargormo. He had not lifted his sword in battle, for his arm was young. But the soul of the youth was great; the fire of his valor burned in his eyes. He saw the disordered steps of his father, and his sigh arose. "King of Croma," he said, "is it because thou hast no son; is it for the weakness of Fovargormo's arm that thy sighs arise? I begin, my father, to feel my strength! I have drawn the sword of my youth; and I have bent the bow. Let me meet this Rothmar, with the sons of Croma; let me meet him O my father! I feel my burning soul!"

Crothar no longer able to resist the persuasive pleadings of his son reluctantly consents that he shall lead in the attack on Rothmar. "And thou shalt meet him, I said, son of sightless Crothar." But ~~of the~~ he ~~says~~ adds, "let others advance before thou, that I may hear the tread of thy feet at thy return; for my eyes behold thou not fair haired Fovargormo." He went, he met the foe; he fell Rothmar

advances to Croma. "He who slew my son is near with all his pointed spears."

After the relation of these events Ossian's fire kindled. "This, he said, is no time to fill the shell, and took his spear; his people saw the fire of his eyes; they all rose around." All night they strode; gray morning rose in the east. A green narrow vale appeared, and the host of Rothmar on its banks with all their glittering arms. They fought along the vale; they fled and Rothmar fell beneath the sword of Ossian. Day had not departed in the west when he brought the arms to Crothar. The aged chief felt them with his hands and joy brightened over all his thoughts.

The people gather to the hall; the shells of the feast are heard; ten harps are strung; five bards advance and sing in turns the praises of Ossian. They poured forth their burning songs and the string answered to their voices. The joy of Croma was great; for peace had returned to the land. The night came on with silence, the morning returned {——} with joy. No foe came in darkness with his glittering spear. The joy of Croma was great, for the gloomy Rothmar had fallen.

The Corpse of Crothar's son was yet enburied, and Ossian raised his voice when the chief was laid in earth

“The aged Crothar was there, but his sigh was not  
 heard”—Fearful that his son might have fallen in  
 a retreat from the foe,” he {——} searched for the  
 his wound ~~of his son~~, and found it in his breast. Joy  
 rose in the face of the aged. He came and spoke to Ossian  
 “King of Spears” he said, “My son has not fallen with  
 out his fame. The young warrior did not fly; but  
 met his death as he went forward in his strength Hap  
 py are they who die in youth when their renown  
 is heard. The feeble will not be behold them in the  
 hall; or smile at their trembling hands. Their memo  
 ry shall be honored in song; the young tear of the vir  
 gin will fall. But the aged wither away, by degrees,  
 the same of their youth, while yet they live, is all  
 forgot. The sigh of their son is not heard. Joy is  
 around their tomb; the stone of their fame is placed  
 without a tear. Happy are they who die in youth,  
 when their renown is around them~

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Note The Poem is found in Johnson’s Morristown edition, 1823.  
 Vol. 1 page 269.

In this poem the various incidents related appear, to me, to be worked up with admirable skill. The superannuated condition of the sightless Crothar; his anxiety for the fame of his fallen son; and his endeavors to suppress his grief at his death; while the aid of Ossian and defeat of Rothmar demanded the highest professions of joy, cannot fail of exciting the admiration of the reader. I will recount them

Ossian's first interview with Crothar is most touching "I came out to the hall of Crothar. There sat the chief amidst the arms of his fathers, but his eyes had failed His gray locks waved around a staff, on which the warrior leaned. He hummed the song of other times."

What could be more natural! We can almost see the form of the withered hero, which "humming his song of other times." After stretching his aged hands and blessing the son of Fingal, he reminds Ossian of his own former feats, and refers to the bossy shield {—}{—} of Calthan ~~in the wall~~ "But I have not behold it on the wall, for Crothar's eyes have failed": Of course he could not point it out to

Ossian. Recollecting the athletic form of Fingal, Crothar was desirous of knowing whether Ossian resembled him, & as he could not ~~behold~~ see the hero, he requests liberty to feel his arm, which Ossian ~~freely~~ readily grants. Satisfied of the strength of Ossian's arm, "Though not like the king of Morvin's" he orders the feast to be spread and the men seek to begin, and assumes an air of cheerfulness.

"But it was joy covering a sigh, that darkly dwelt in every breast," On account of the death of Crothar's son and the danger of the Country from Rothmars invasion.

Apprehending that Ossian might have noticed a less cheerful expression than was common at a feast, Crothar enquires, "Son of Fingal; behold'st thou not the darkness of Crothar's joy?" and informs him ~~that~~ that he "was not sad at the feast, when his people lived before him; and that he rejoiced in the presence of strangers when his son shone in the hall."

After the death of his son in the first battle with Rothmar, and halting the progress the conqueror was making towards Croma, Crothar animated by the revolution of

of his former feats, “took his arms in wrath” But, he enquires, “what could sightless Crothar do? My steps were unequal my grief was great. I wished for the days that were past. Days wherein I fought and won in the field of blood”. Can any superannuated hero divest himself of these ~~feelings~~ motions

The pleading of Croathar’s son to be intrusted with military command, is strikingly portrayed. The father willing to give ~~desirous of giving~~ him an opportunity to display his precocious prowess, is yet fearful that his inexperience will render him unsuccessful. But ~~he~~ at length he consents, with this injunction {——} “Let others advance before thee, that I may hear the tread of thy feet at thy return” Here the ~~tender~~ parental having interested his son young Fillan with command, orders an experienced hero to “defend the young in arms; but to conceal his steps from Fillan who must not know that I doubt his steel”; for no cloud of mine he adds, shall rise, my son, upon thy soul of fire.”

The eagerness with which Crothar examined the mortal wound of his son when he attended the burial, to ascertain whether the wound was received in advancing or on a retreat, will be understood by the dedicated military hero. When he found it in his breast “joy rose in the face of the aged” and he ~~says~~ exclaims in ecstasy to Ossian: “My son has not fallen without his fame!” The young warrior did not fly, but met death as he went forward in his strength!”

In the conclusion of the poem, Crothar is represented as consoling himself with the consideration that those who die in youth are happy, for their renown is heard, and their memory is honored in song”: But he adds, the aged wither away by degrees: they fall in secret and the sigh of their son is heard.”!

The Poem though interesting throughout, excels in the parts ~~which~~ representing the decrepit age of the old who have been renowned for talent, activity, & enterprise; and whose mental powers continue after the ~~{—}the~~ failure of those of the body.

In



In the Poems ascribed to Ossian, I find much that is sublime pathetic and highly touching [—]; and whether they are ~~work~~ effusions of an ancient bard, and have been handed down by tradition from the scotch or Irish, or they are work of a modern hand I am not much concerned to know. My impression ~~opinion~~ is that scraps, and perhaps whole poems have been found among the old scotch; and that they were collected, ~~and~~ modified, and in some instances, additions made, by Macpherson. Be this as it may, one thing, to adopt ~~use~~ the language of Dr Blair, is certain. They awaken the tenderest sympathies and inspire the most generous emotions” and no reader can rise from Ossian without being warmed with sentiments of humanity, virtue, and honour”

Saturday 15. Morn fair & low fog & wind at noon  
 NW and light: air moderately warm & fair, and  
 pleasant day. Evening northern lights: also last night.

Sunday 16 Morn fair wind North sky a little  
 hazy, which thickened in the afternoon and air nearly  
 calm. Sun set cloudy, indicating rain. Evening clear & with light  
 Died

Died at Springfield on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant Dr. John Stone formerly a physician at Greenfield aged 75 years.

He was of respectable standing in his profession, and esteemed in society. Buried at Greenfield his former place of residence.

Monday 27 Morn cloudy and calm. Sun appeared mid day, and northerly breeze. Afternoon generally cloudy air moderate Rain threatens.

Wrote a letter to John W. Barber of New Haven, author of Connecticut Historical Collection, communicating a copy of the inscription placed upon the Lathrop monument as I had promised him. See July 19<sup>th</sup> page 46 of Journal.

Eclipse Tomorrow, according to our Almanacks, we are to have a grand eclipse of the Sun of about 11 digits, and a meridian in part of our Country.

At Boston beginning at	3 <sup>H</sup> 25 <sup>m</sup> 30 <sup>s</sup>	} afternoon, mean time, according to Wild's Almanack. Sol time 6' fast of mean time
Greatest observation	4. 47- 00	
End-----	5. 57 30	

Should the sky be clear, some of the planets and stars of the first magnitude may probably be seen; Jupiter 4 or 5 minutes easterly of the sun, and Saturn near the meridian, when the eclipse begins.

The rationale of eclipses is now generally understood by people of common information, but the exactness with which they are calculated by astronomers excites their surprise. In former times the calculator of an almanac was looked upon as a sort of witch on whom the unlearned looked with fear; and they supposed them capable of foretelling future events which hold no connection with astronomy. Hence they placed confidence in the predictions of the weather when found in ~~the~~ almanacks.

The Nautical almanac and Connaissance des tems, published in England and France, are works of pure science, as well as proud testimonials of the progress of knowledge. Astronomy is now placed on high ground, and maintains its position, in spite of the assaults of ignorance. The days in which bigotry ~~ignorance~~

fostered by the catholic Clergy of Europe incarcerated Galileo for declaring to the world the motion of the earth around the sun, and upon its axis, are past, and we trust will never return; and let us hope that the cold and unfeeling hand of fanaticism and superstition will not again ~~again~~ be raised to retard the progress now making in other branches of useful knowledge.

#### Temperance Meeting

Lecture In the evening a lecture was delivered on temperance by an itinerant gentleman. Unfortunately for the cause, the late act of the legislature for the suppression of the sale of ardent spirits, has had an unfavorable effect. The people have taken sides, for or against the act, and their passions are roused. When this happens reasoning however candid and forcible, will have little effect upon the heavens. Among the opposers of the speaker's sentiments, very few will attend his address, and those who do, will treat him contemptuously, and argument will be lost upon them. Without coercive measures the temperance cause would have met little opposition, and in fact it was making good progress. Men may be persuaded when they will not be forced. The law I think, was passed without due consideration. As a friend to temperance, I regret it.

Tuesday 18 Morn fair Northerly breeze Air warm  
 Some cirrus clouds. Afternoon wind south and a few cirro  
 cumulus clouds; and favorable time for viewing the eclipse.  
 At 3<sup>H</sup>..25<sup>m</sup> by Clark, the predicted eclipse was seen; the clock solar time  
 and uncertain to two or three minutes. No planet or star was  
 seen by the naked eye at the greatest observation. During  
 this time there was sort of gloomyness in the appearances  
 of objects, and the air became sensibly cooler. The calculation  
 as given in Wilds Almanack were well made. In the Anti  
 Slavery Almanack published at Boston, the beginning of the  
 eclipse was put down 4<sup>h</sup>..6<sup>m</sup>, an error of 4 minutes, I  
 suppose solar time.

The calculation in some of our Almanacks are  
 given in mean time, and for astronomers this is the  
 most convenient; but for the people generally, solar  
time is to be preferred, as their time pieces are regu  
 lated by the sun. All Almanacks should express which  
 time is used.

Wednesday 19. Morn fair wind NW and brisk  
 the day fair and very fine throughout.  
 This day a muster of our Light Infantry, Riflemen  
 Artillery and Cavalry near Stockbridge's tavern

in Whately, composed of 4 Companies of Artillery, 4 of Cavalry and 8 of light infantry and riflemen. The companies were generally rather small and too much ornamented in their dress. These troops are paid by the State; each man 5 dollars a year & Were they kept in the field 12 or 14 days annually and taught camp duty, some useful instruction might be imparted~

The concourse of spectators was large, especially of young men, whose curiosity as always excited by military show; and since nations will continue to decide their disputes by the sword, this excitement should not to be suppost, as it induces soldiers to enlist when armies are demanded for the defense of the Country~

Thursday 20. Morn fair; wind south a fine day throughout, a few stratus clouds at sun set.

Dr John Delamater the Lecturer on various branches of Medicine, called on me and was introduced by Dr. Williams. His countenance indicated intelligence and activity, but I have little opportunity to enter upon scientific discussions with him, as his stay was short. On enquiring however about the use of the waters in the Great Lakes, he stated that Erie was 22 inches higher than common.

[ ] Friday 21. Cloudy morn. Northerly breeze. Rainy in afternoon with fog on the hills & air moderately warm. The wind changed to south, latter part of the day~ our Commissioner for our agricultural survey of the State Rev Henry Colman made me a short call. He is now in the prosecution of the duty designate him, and will visit each town in the state, to obtain materials for a general report of its agriculture. From his well known talents and zeal, I think we may look for a lucid report at the completion of his services. Already has he given one of the County of Essex containing useful information. The Commissioner seems to be impressed with the belief, that great improvements may be made in our agriculture, and of this I think there can be no doubt. When the different practices in the towns are embodied in a Book, all can be informed, and many will be induced to think. The information obtained will be found particularly useful to those who are seated on worn out farms, in restoring them to their original fertility. In new countries, where the lands superabound with vegetable matter on the surface, agriculture depends less on art. Nature furnishing the requisite manure.

Saturday 22. Cloudy morn; brisk south wind Air warm and much rain last night. Sun appeared occasionally about noon. Afternoon alternately cloudy & fair with brisk wind at south and warm air. Evening closely cloudy and air still warm.

Some of the maples in our street begin to show the yellow and red hue of Autumn, and yet we have had no frost sufficient to ~~affect~~ check vegetation; the very slight one seen on the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant having no effect. If this hue of the leaves proceeds from an increased oxygenation of the coloring matter in them, where this increase in a part of a tree and not the whole? Perhaps it is from some defect of circulation in particular parts of the trees, indicating a decay of some of the limbs.

Sunday 23. Morn fair with numerous broken clouds; wind brisk from south air warm. At 8 oclock wind shited to NW & blew strong, producing a sudden change of temperature of the air and a few drops of rain from heavy clouds. Afternoon cloudy, with frequent rain attended with fog.

This day the sun reaches the equinox, enters Libra and changes its declination to south; days & nights equal; &



& the sun sets at the North pole and rises at the south, allowing nothing for refraction.

To an inhabitant on the equator, the grand astronomical machine at this time, exhibits a beautiful symmetry. The sun apparently moving ~~in a~~ in a vertical circle, cutting the horizon in the east, and west points, and the spectator's zenith in the centre of the arch; the stars moving in parallel circles, and the planets in the same manner, with a small variation arising from their declinations; his terminator and horizon coincident and the two poles at their extremity, pointing out his meridian. In short every thing appears as it really is, excepting the motion of the earth on its axis from west to east, which he transfers to the heavenly arch in a reverse order~

These appearances are very naturally exhibited by bringing the poles of an artificial globe to the horizon, and placing it so that the poles shall be on the true meridian. In our latitude, situated in an oblique sphere, the phenomena are not exactly similar.  
Monday 24 Morn fair SE wind & cool. Afternoon wind west & brisk cumulo stratus clouds At

At Sun set clear and calm, and air moderately cool.,

The Philadelphia Weekly messenger of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, states that the rain on the 12<sup>th</sup> was overflowing, and that nearly three months had elapsed since the city and Country had been refreshed with so liberal a supply. It is added that there was scarcely a dry house in the City on Wednesday night all the roofs leaked in consequence of their longer exposure to the sun. The rain at Deerfield was moderate through the day, but heavy during the night following, and continued some time the next morning. I regret that the direction of the wind, at Philadelphia, is not noticed, and should like to know the extent of the rain. As affording useful data for meteorological investigations.

Tuesday 25. Morn fair & a breeze from NW at noon wind South & hazy sky (cirro stratus) Clouds thicken at sun set, indicating rain

Tenne  
see

} In looking over the Geography of the western & south western states, I find very favorable description of Tennessee. The state lies between the Lat. 35° and 36°30' N. and of course we should suppose it a hot and

unhealthy country for Northern men. But it is not so represented. The state is said to be variegated with mountains and rich valley and some parts so broken as to be unfit for cultivation. These mountains are supposed have a great influence on the climate, and to render the Country pleasant & healthful. It has been called the middle climate of the U.States. Vegetation is said to be 6 or 7 weeks sooner than in New Hampshire and the summers not much hotter than in New England. Many parts of the state are supposed to be as healthy as any section of the Globe. Parts are covered with aged forests and other parts are found destitute of timber. The principal product, are corn, hemp, cotton wheat & other small grains. (when the land is not too rich) flax. sweet potatoes as well as other kinds; tobacco, upland rice, indigo, vines; garden plants and fruit trees grow luxuriantly, and as far as experiments have been made, it produces the grasses, both for pasturage and hay. Among the minerals are salt, iron, copperus, alium, saltpeter, and lead mines have been discovered, Among the trees is a species of pitch pine useful for boards, timber

and tar. Among the under growth, in low grounds, is cane, some 20 feet high. Virginia & Seneca snake root, ginseng, Carolina pink, angelica, senna, lobelia, Indian physic, spicewood, wild plum, crabapple, haws, ha slenuts, sweet arise, red bird, ginger, spikenard, wild hop and grape vines. The glades are covered with wild rice, wild oats, clover, buffalo grass, straw berries & pea vines. On the hills at the head of rivers, and in some high cliffs, are found majestic red cedars; many of these trees are 4 feet in diameter & 40 feet clear of limbs

The woods are full of game, and the rivers of fish, some of a large kind. Admitting these accounts to be correct, the country will compare with the [     ] Arcadia, ~~to a sort of [—]~~ and one of her parts sings as follows of its beauties:

“I sigh for no land of a lovelier sky.

To blush in its starlight and beauty for me;

I ask for no landscape more fair to my eye

Than the blue girdled land of my own Tennessee;

With her daughters of beauty so lovely and fair

And her sons of devotion so valiant in war.”

Where can an immigrant from the winter country of N. England find a more inviting one, if it is in fact as healthy as his home?

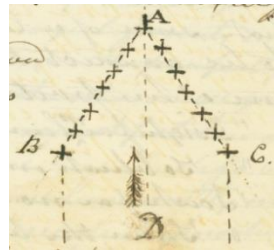
Wednesday 26. Morn Cloudy and clam. At noon north breeze, and afternoon a steady rain; the air moderately warm and nearly calm.

The Wild Geese.

Our family inform me that a flock of Wild geese (*Anser Canadensis*) past this morning to the south, from which we conclude that the weather in the arctic regions ~~had~~ became cold.

The triangular order generally preserved in the flight of a flock of these birds, is a curious circumstance, and cannot but excite admiration in the beholder. The annexed figure represents the flight of a flock

The leader is at the angle A, followed by others in echillon order on the lines Ab & AC, each bird [ ] in open front, on lines parallel to that of the leader AD. In this order there is no danger of interfering with each other, unless it be the first two after [ ]. The lateral distance of the two ~~front two~~, from center to center, determines the angle of flight, or BAC; which might be ascertained by calculation were the dimensions of the birds ~~and~~ or air their distances from



each other given. This angle, I believe, is always acute and probably the same in all cases. Small flocks have been seen in one line, as AC; but still preserving the [ ] order, and the line AC oblique to the line of flight AD.

The leader no doubt directs this line of flight, and we enquire by what instrument he steers his course? Can he calculate an amplitude or an azimuth; by special trigonometry? or has he a magnetic needle in his head? We answer with the Standard poet.

“Whether with reason, or with instinct bless’d  
Know, all enjoy that pow’r which suits them best;  
To bliss alike by that direction tend,  
And find the means proportion’d to their end,  
Say, where full instinct is the unerring guide,  
What pope or council can they need beside!”

The poet continues with the following inquiries.

“Who taught the nations of the field & wood  
To shun the poison, and to choose their food?  
Prescient, the tides or tempests to withstand,  
Build on the wave, or arch beneath the sound?  
Who made the spider parallels design,  
Sure as Demoivre, without rule or line?

who

“Who bid the stork, Columbus like, explore  
 Heav’ns not his own, and worlds unknown before?  
 Who calls the council, states the certain day,  
 Who forms the phalanx, and who points the way?”

Whether our animals reason at all, or act from  
 instinct is a question not conclusively ~~easily~~ solved. In some of the  
 most [     ] intelligent, reasoning powers seem to actuate  
 them, in a degree: Are both combined, as in man?

Our poet says

“See then the acting and comparing pow’rs,  
One in their nature, which are two in ours;  
 And reason raise o’er instinct as you can,  
 In this ‘tis God directs, in that ‘tis man.”<sup>4</sup>

In the flight of our gregarious birds which pass ~~fly~~ in  
 numerous flocks, as pigeons, no order seems to be preserved,  
 and I have often wondered how it is possible they  
 should in masses without striking each other with their  
 wings; but in their flight they may have an instinctive  
 guide which we cannot see.

Man by close observation & reflection may learn some  
 thing of the operations of nature; but after his utmost exertion  
 to fathom the arcana of God’s works, much will remain  
 mysteries.

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<sup>4</sup> The poet Hoyt is referring to is Alexander Pope. The quotes come from the Poem, *Four Epistles to H. St. John, Lord Bolingbroke*, Epistle 3.

Thursday 27 Rain last night, and Cloudy and foggy this morn, with a northerly breeze. Continued cloudy through the day.

Friday 28 Morn cloudy and southerly breeze; Cloudy through the day, with exception of a few minutes of Sunshine.

A Philosophical Dictionary, from the French of M. De Voltaire. With notes and additions by Abner Kneeland. First American Stereotype Edition: Boston 1836. Royal Octavo, of about a thousand pages, and two engravings. 2 Vols, bound in one.

Excepting a [ ] & condensed edition which I once saw, this work is new to me. The subjects embraced are arranged alphabetically, ~~and~~ are numerous and often of considerable length, and evince much ingenuity as well as learning. Voltaire was born in 1694 and died at Paris in 1778, at the age of 84 years.

In some of his articles on natural philosophy and the sciences, it will be seen that the lapse of sixty years has brought forward improvements, which exhibit his incorrectness in some particulars. Many of the writings of this author are mentioned with great respect by



historians of the time; especially ~~those of the~~ drama works. But his philosophical writings [—] have been reconed too free, as ~~often~~ having a pernicious tendency in a Christian community, yet to have served to promote enquiry, and to enlighten the human understanding. (See Russell's modern Europe Vol. 2, p. 586)

It is true, in treating upon many parts of Scripture he uses the same freedom of criticism that he does in other ancient histories, especially in treating of the Jews. But in this does he use more freedom than some of our Clergy of the present day? One of whom treating upon the inspiration of the scripture [ ] says: "The commonly reviewed doctrines of the inspiration of all the writings included in the Bible, is a mill stone hung around the neck, sufficient to sink it." And further "The correctness of all the reasonings, sentiments are statements contained in the Bible is by no means an essential part of the belief of a Christian." See Review of Kingstonburg's Christology Christian Examiner, Vol. 16 p. 355.

The main draft of Voltair's philosophical writings, seem to be, aimed against the fanaticism & superstition of the

times in which he lived, or rather the corruptions of Christianity; but he may not at all times have been judicious and free from deserved censure. He has indeed been charged with atheism by the Orthodox. But I must say, that little is found in his Dictionary favoring this doctrine: on the contrary much strong reasoning is seen ~~found~~ in support of the existence of a Deity, and he often speaks respectfully of Christianity.

That Mr Kneeland should have selected this work in support of his pantheistical doctrine appears to me very extraordinary; and it is seen that where Voltaire is advancing arguments in proof of a Deity, Kneeland often adds notes to counteract the force of his reasoning.

Not having seen much of Kneeland's writings I am not sure I fully understand his scheme. But so far as I have learned it, the following appears to be his belief.

The idea of an intelligent supreme creator who rules and governs the universe he considers a chimera; and substitutes what he calls nature. All the properties of matter are self existent, and have been the same as they now are ~~possess~~ from eternity, and will ever continue. An apple ~~tree~~ seed when planted in the soil  
that

that is suited to it, will sprout grow and produce an apple tree; the seed of an elm ~~that of an elm~~; the seed of an oak ~~that of an oak~~ &c and all this without the agency of an intelligent primum mobile; the eternal laws of nature, which are uniform at all times, producing the effect. So also, all the laws of magnetism, chemistry gravitation &c & those of the animal kingdom exist & operate in a similar manner. This he supposes is more rational than to believe in an intelligent being who has existed from eternity of which he says we can have no adequate conception. But I imagine is it more difficult to conceive of the existence of an intelligent Deity from eternity, than the existence of the laws of nature from the same?

The difficulty in the pantheistical scheme lies here. In viewing nature we observe evident marks of adaptation and design, hence we say, an intelligent and powerful being must have produced them, and that without such designing power, they could not have been. The fact that design is seen in the operations of nature, is sufficient to satisfy me, that intelligence must be the primum mobile and not laws without intelligence. To say that these laws have existed eternally, and that there is design in them, without a designing power to create them, seems to be too

paradoxical

~~mysterious~~ to be admitted. If we cannot conceive the eternal existence of Deity, neither can we conceive the eternal existence of nature and its laws. But when we believe in the eternal existence of an intelligent cause, who made & governs the matter of the universe, our minds are more satisfied than when we believe that nature has existed from eternity in its present form, without an intelligent cause, and if both are mysterious, the former is the least so~

In a dialogue between a Philosopher and Nature, in the article nature, page 168 vol. 2d of the Philosophical Dictionary, we find the following.

The Philosopher enquires, “Are you always active? Are you always passive? Do your elements arrange themselves, as water places itself over sand, oil over water, and air over oil? Have you a mind which directs all your operations as councils are inspired as soon as they meet, although the individual members comprising them are often ignorant? Explain to me, I entreat, the enigma in which you are enveloped.

Nature. I am the great universal system. I know nothing further. I am no mathematician and yet every thing in

and about me, is arranged agreeably to mathematical laws.  
Conjecture if you can how all this is effected.

Philosopher. Certainly, since your great universal system knows nothing of mathematics, and yet the laws by which you are regulated are those of the most profound geometry, there must ~~be~~ necessarily be an Eternal Geometrician, who directs you and presides over your operations.

Nature. You are perfectly right; I am water, earth, fire air, metal, mineral, stone, vegetable, and animal. I clearly perceive that there is an intelligence in me: you possess intelligence. although you see it not. Neither do I see mine; I feel this invisible power; I am unable to know it: why should you, who are only a very minute portion of myself, be anxious to know what I myself am ignorant of?

The dialogue continues, and the Philosopher tells Nature,  
“The more I reflect on the subject, the more clearly I perceive that you are only the act of some Great Being, extremely powerful and skillful, who conceals himself and exhibits you.

If

If Mr. Kneeland can discover his pantheism in this dialogue, he sees what I cannot.

In treating of God, Voltair has the following sentiments,  
 “We have no adequate idea of the Divinity; we creep on from conjecture to conjecture from likelihood to probability. We have very few certainties. There is something; therefore there is something eternal; for nothing is produced from nothing. Here is a certain truth on which the mind reposes. Every work which shows us means and an end, announces a workman. then this universe, composed of springs, of man, each of which has its end, discovers a most mighty a most intelligent workman. Here is a probability approaching the greatest certainty.” Again-  
 “My reason alone proves to me a Being who has arranged the matter of the world; but my reason is that he brought it out of nothing.” +++  
 “All than that I can do, without the aid of superior light, is to believe that the God of this world is also eternal, and subsisting by himself.” +++  
 “If God and nature exist from all eternity, as

as antiquity believed, here then are two necessary beings: now if there be two necessary beings there may be thirty. These doubts alone, which are the germ of an infinity of reflections, serve at least to convince us of the feebleness of our understanding. WE must, with Cicero, confess our ignorance of the Divinity; we shall never know any more of it than he did.”

These opinions seem not to tally very well with Mr. Kneeland’s pantheism, and he makes the following note. “We can form no conception of a God or any other being out of matter, or out of nature; we might suppose one out of the Universe, or out of existence, just as well. We know the existence of matter, only by its properties, and by its operations; we know nothing either of the properties or operations of God, and therefore can know nothing of such a being.”

Voltaire says, “We feel that we are under the hand of an invisible being; this is all; we cannot advance one step further.”

This does not suit Mr. Kneeland, and he adds another note, viz. “Not so. We feel nothing about it. It is

not an object susceptible of feeling, any more than of sight, or of hearing. The word feel here, is used for imagine.” Here he seems to suppose that, because God is not tangible, like matter, we cannot believe he exists. Let me inquire of Mr Kneeland whether the properties of a triangle are tangible, whether he can feel that its sides are proportional to the sines of their opposite angles? And because he cannot feel this proportion, will he say he disbelieves it. This truth we perceive by reasoning and reflection, and in the same manner we arrive at the knowledge of the existence of God.

Speaking of Voltaire the Marquis D’Argenson says, “If he lives to be old, he will write a great deal more (at this time he was only 40 years ~~old~~) and be the author of works upon which much will be said both for and against. Heaven grant that the magic of his style may not give credit to false opinions and dangerous ideas; that he may not dishonor this charming style, in prose and in verse by applying it to works whose subjects may be unworthy of the printers and the coloring; that this great writer may not produce



a multitude of bad copyests; and that he may not become the chief of a sect, to which it will happen, as to many others, that the disciples will mistake the intentions of the patriarch.

In publishing the Dictionary, has not Mr Kneeland fallen into this error, by mistaking the intentions of the author? If any thing be found in the Dictionary to favor the pantheism of Mr Kneeland, it is not very obvious; and to me it appears that its drift is against it. That there are ~~many~~ incorrect principles advanced in the work. I am ready ~~persuaded~~ to believe; but in the hands of enlightened and sound minded men, I think it may be useful, as leading to enquiries, and investigations of dangers, which have existed and still prevail in the world, and retard the progress of useful knowledge~

Saturday 29. Morn cloudy with some rain and a northerly breeze. air moderately warm. Sun appeared at noon. Afternoon warm, and at sun set cumulo stratus clouds below, and cirro stratus above.

Among the forest trees in our eastern woods, I notice here and there some of a bright yellow, and one a very ~~bright~~ deep red standing in open ground; but no frost has occurred~

Sunday 30. Morn fair breeze from N.W. brisk at noon and sky very clear. Afternoon fair & very clear & a beautiful day throughout.

Monday, October 1. Morn fair and southerly breeze, day fair throughout and warm very fine air~

Mailed a letter to my son Arthur at Paris, Illinois, in answer to his of the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, including remarks upon two projects of his, in relation to a location for a settlement.

Messrs Boutelle and Hale, two of Mr. Borden's assistants, called on me. They are on their way to the County of Berkshire to correct the errors of the surveys & plans of towns in that quarter, they being found defective in many instances, as I had anticipated; and probably equal errors will be found in many other towns in the Commonwealth.

Surveying is extremely imperfect. Many who practice it are unacquainted with even the first principles of Geometry; and many of the instruments used are totally unfit. These men can run a magnetic line, cast the contents of a square or parallelogram, and approximate to that of a triangle, but few know any thing of trigonometrical or of the variation of the needle, or of the methods of determining it. Our Geodesic survey

I hope ~~will~~ may show that ~~may~~ may be the practice of land surveying may be accurate and relied on with certainty. Good instruments may now be procured in this Country, but the imported ones excel; yet few surveyors can afford to pay the price of a good theodolite which is the best in open ground; and where land is of great value, the magnetic needle should be relied on.

In our thick woods a good magnetic instrument in the hands of a skillful surveyor, is invaluable.

Tuesday 2. Morn fair with breeze noon  
wind south air warm day fine at Sun set  
stratus clouds in the west (or cirro stratus)

Wednesday 3. Morn fair and warm wind south Soon became cloudy attended with rain; remainder of the day cloudy & fair alternately, the wind at North W and air cooler. Our maple leaves begin to fall from the trees while most of them are green. Evening cool.

Thursday 4. Fair morn. Wind, or a breeze, from south  
In the morning frost was [     ] on the grass, the first decided  
one this season. The day fine through out.

Friday 5. Morn fair wind south, and a fair day,  
throughout. All nature seems in repose at sun set and  
the air very agreeable

An old acquaintance of mine, Joshua Sweet, made a visit to my resident family with whom he had been intimate. Mr Sweet is now in his 74<sup>th</sup> year full of activity, enjoying good health. In the year 1781 he enlisted into the Continental Army at the age of 16, and served to the close of the war. In conversation with him, I found his memory bright and his recollections of the operations of the army generally correct. Part of the time he ~~was in the services~~ he served as waiter of Capt. Phelon who afterwards fell in the Indian attack on St. Clairs army in Ohio; at other times he served in the line and performed the usual duties. He states that he was detailed to perform orderly duty at Washingtons quarters, where he continued several weeks, and had frequent opportunities to see the general. When the general was at leisure in his marquee and his aids absent, he sometimes called him in and inquired about the manners and customs of the people in the section of the country where Sweet came; particularly about our agriculture, on manner of reusing stock and fattening of cattle, the fertility of our soil &c. Having completed his inquiries, he would say you may now go. Sweet says his duty was easy and pleasant  
that

that his chief employment was to carry papers to officers commanding corps, and he was charged to return immediately, and to be ready at all times at a call. During the time he was on this duty, he lived with the Generals guard and fared well. The guard was a separate corps from the army, and performed no other duty than that of as-a guard to head quarters, which was generally some distance in the rear of the main camp.

When the troops were on the march over wet grounds & bad roads through the mud, and much fatigued, Sweet says he has ~~has~~ seen the General ride up to the flank of the column and familiarly enquire, Well Boys are you tired? If New England troops, he would add, no New England men never tire—they are always ready to do their duty! On which the fatigued soldiers would strut up & dash on with renewed vigor, ~~and~~ seemingly forgetting that they were wading half leg deep through mud and water. This mode of managing soldiers has a most salutary effect, especially when the commander is esteemed by them. Marshal Turenne, it is said, was remarkably mild in the treatment of his men; he spoke to them with mildness, reproved them with moderation and

corrected them with patient forbearance. In a difficult retreat a soldier who had not strength to support himself sunk down at the foot of a tree to wait the end of his misery; the marshal observing him, instantly dismounted his horse, assisted the soldier in rising, placed him on his animal and accompanied him on foot till he reached the wagons, in one of which he was placed. By thus attending to the distresses of his men he acquired the title of Feather of the soldiers. Washington well understood the effect, of such management. Sweet related the following anecdote of an Irishman of his company. During a scarcity of beef, the men drew a very poor scanty ration of this article, and Pat was uneasy, at his allowance, and determined to seek redress. Washington with his aids, ~~was~~ one day passing along the front of the camp on horseback ~~and~~ Pat resolved to show ~~to~~ him his pittance of beef. Placing himself in the attitude of soldier under Arms, with his hat under his arm, he advanced in a measured pace to the General ~~horse~~ and holding out his little ration, accosted him {—} “Does your Excellency think this beef, is sufficient for a good soldier for one day? The General very mildly enquired if this was the whole that Pat had drawn, and being informed by others that it was, “Well Pat, said he, I will see

that you are better supplied. The next day the ration of beef was ample, and ~~the~~ of an improved quality, and Pat received the thanks of his companions ~~men~~ for his adventurous exploit. Sweet relates many anecdotes of the eccentric Capt Uolang (Hudoin) a Frenchman of his regiment, whom he thinks, with all his singularities, was a good officer.

While on the march from West point (under Genl Howe) to Philadelphia, to suppress an insurrection of a body of Pennsylvania troops, who had surrounded Congress had and demanded pay for their services, Sweet stated that the provisions were exhausted and the troops nearly starved. Uolang, who was always ~~was~~ careful of his men, seeing the commander of his regiment passing by, cried out to him, "Can you let me have a pasture? A pasture! Why do you want a pasture? replied the officer. I want it it to feed my men, says Uolang, or they will starve! While at Philadelphia Sweet was sent with the clothes of some officers to be washed, by {—} some women who preformed that service, who requested him ~~Sweet~~ to cut them some wood lying near the door. Uolang who was very apt to be found at ladies houses, was standing in the door way, reclining his body on one side & his hand on the other. Sweet commenced cutting the wood: but his

ax slipping from its halve, struck the door post very near Uolangs head. Instantly in a rage the Capt roared out You dam Yankee- you know no how to cut wood! Sweet, after retiring out of the reach of the enraged French man's sword, burst into a loud laugh at the expense of the Capt. For several other anecdotes of this officer see Thatcher's Journal of the Revolutionary War, page 432.

Mr Sweet now resides in Shelburne where he has a good farm, and with his pension from Government, is in easy circumstances, and has several children of respectable standing in various parts.

Singular as it may appear to ~~the~~ man who has been bred up to a domestic life of peace and quietness, yet it is true that those who have served years in the turbulent field of war exposed to its hardships and dangers, become attached to it. and many are found who would again engage in their old employment, did not age forbid it. Many of our revolutionary officers on their retirement appeared to be unhappy, and they were not well fitted for a life of repose; The dull round of domestic business was unsuited to their tastes, & some who engaged in trade were unfortunate. An enquiry of ~~the~~ Sweet whether he would again engage in military service if his country required it?



he readily replied that he would, were he young; and that nothing would be more pleasing than campaigns like those he had endured; But it may be remarked that in no instance did he behold the carnage of a battle, one or two small affairs in which a distant comrade was sustained, were the only times in which he was exposed.

Military men, however, by long service, if not called to fight, seem to forget that a battle may terminate their career. What they call glory is their motto and laurels the crown to which they aspire. An officer who was in the army of General Gates on the Hudson 1777, informed he and a member of his brethren at a table set, responded {——} to the following toast, “A battle with the enemy and slight wounds” Freeman’s field soon after presented them a theatre for the display of their ardor; but it proved a tragedy instead of a play—the wounds were deep and in many instances the hoped for laurels were obscure grains, over which the place now passes unconscious of ~~of~~ the moulding bones beneath. May we hope that nations will find other means of deciding their disputes, and that the olive branch will become standard {——} and Peace our motto!

Saturday 6. Morn fair wind south, air moderate  
at sunset cirro stratus clouds overspread the sky~

The lines of poetry inserted on the monument of La  
thorp which we have erected at Bloody Brook, and  
taken from Lord Byron's Childe Harolde, Canto 4<sup>th</sup>  
65 stanza. The bloody rivulet which he calls Sanguinetto empties  
into Thrasinene lake, where Hannibal defeated the Ro  
man army commanded by the Consul Flaminius? The site  
of the battle of Thrasimene is not to be mistaken. The trav  
eller from the village under Costona to Casa di Piano,  
the next stage on the way to Rome, passes over it. Its  
distance is about 70 miles from Florence. The site of  
the battle is surrounded by Hannibals army and complet  
ly defeated after a desperate fight of three hours, and  
Flaminius killed. The peasants of the country point out  
an open spot between sanguinetto and the hills, which  
they say was the principal scene of the slaughter. Near  
some old walls on a bleak ridge on the left, above the rivulet,  
many bones have been repeatedly found, and this has confirmed  
the pretentions and the name of the stream of blood."  
See notes to Childe Harold, page 71, Byrons Works N York 1834.

Sunday 7. Morn fair wind NW & brisk. Day fair throughout, and the easterly wind which has prevailed has brought a cool air, which may produce a frost~

Boston Quarterly Review

This work is published on the first of January. April, July and October in each year, and is to contain 128 pages each No. It is said to be edited by O Brownson of Boston and the fourth No is now out. Price 3 Dollars for annum, payable on the receipt of the first number.

The Review is devoted to Religion, Politics, Philosophy, and general Literature, and is open to the free discussion of all topics of general and permanent interest. Judging from the first 3 numbers, which I have seen, there appears to be no want of talent and literary knowledge in the Edition; and whether his political creed will correspond with my federal democracy, is to be determined by future numbers.

In the 3d number of the work we find a long review of the Academical Lectures on the Jewish Scriptures and Antiquities. By John Gorham Palfrey D.D. Professor of Biblical Literature in the University of Cambridge, Vol. 1. The last 4 books of the Pentateuch

From the enlightened theology which has emanated from the University of Cambridge of late years, and the acknowledged talents of Dr. Palfrey, I was led to believe that a work from his pen, on a subject relating to Biblical Literature, would be found to contain interesting and instructing matter; as tending to remove the embarrassments met with, in perusing the Pentateuch ascribed to Moses. The Doctor's work I have not seen, and therefore can form an opinion of it only from the Review of it in the Boston Quarterly, which, to say the least, is an able production. It would not, however, be wise ~~just~~ to make up a full opinion without a perusal of the Doctor's work. But if the reviewer has made faithful ~~just~~ quotations and statements of the positions laid down by the Doctor, we may, with some degree of certainty, comprehend the drift of his labors.

The Reviewer approves of the freedom which Dr. Palfrey uses in examining the Pentateuch. He says "the same criticism is to be applied to the writings of Moses and Aris totle. The genuine is to be separated from the spurious; the true from the false; the reasonable from the fantastic and absurd." The Dr, he adds, "examines the works  
with

with the same impartial rigor he would exercise up on the writings of Hesiod or Hermias. If he concludes the books of Moses were written at the time alledged, it is because he sees what ~~he sees what~~ he esteems sufficient reason for that opinion.” ++++. “None can justly accuse him of begging the question at the outset, and revolving in the circle so well trodden by his predecessors”

Dr. Pelfrey he says, “believes a revelation has been made to man in words, spoken in the Hebrew language, and he sees no objection to a miracle, when there is occasion for one. He is so far from believing that Moses was immediately inspired to write all the laws in these books, that he declares some of the most important regulations proceeded from Moses himself, or from his friends, and that others originated with him, and were, by a singular process, ‘submitted for the divine approval’ and then announced, ‘as resting on divine authority! The Dr, the Reviewer says, “denies that there was any miraculous agency concerned in guiding the nation, by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.” And so in many other instances he differs from those who believe in the importance

of the books of the Pentateuch. “Yet, says the Reviewer, we can hardly believe that his explanations will be found satisfactory to the majority of readers. While he admits the abstract credibility of miracles, he seems desirous of restricting the miraculous agency to the smallest sphere possible.

But when the Deus ex Machina is once fairly introduced, neither the frequency nor the miraculousness of his operations can produce any embarrassment. It is no relief to explain away ninety & nine miracles, while the hundredth is permitted to remain. If one Camel may go through the needle’s eye, all may.”

“The explanation of the miracles, so far from being satisfactory, will in many minds create new doubts and embarrassments. If so much is mere natural occurrence, why call any portion a miracle. If so many of the events hitherto accounted miraculous can be explained away by the application of enlightened and searching criticism, why may not the few remaining ones be explained away by the application of the same criticism? Most readers we are inclined to think, will wish the author had shown a broader and more obvious difference than he has, between the miracles he explains away, and those he retains,

and also between those circumstances attending the same occurrences, which he ascribes to miraculous agency, and those which he concludes were but natural events. His decisions in most cases, appear to us to be extremely arbitrary; at least he rarely [ ] any solid reasons to justify them. He must expect then his readers in general either to stop this side of him, or go beyond him."

The Reviewer confesses that the difficulties he has felt in regard to the wonderful events recounted in the Pentateuch are not removed, or in the least diminished. The author he says, does too much or not enough." Does he not take quite too much liberty with the writings on which he comments, if they are to be regarded as the Holy word of God; and quite too little if they are to be regarded merely as a collection of ancient traditions? quite too much if there be any ground for supposing Moses their Author, and quite too little if we may receive them as anonymous productions. Is it not easier to believe all the miracles recorded in them, precisely as they stand, than the few he retains, and as he explains them? And will not the impressions of most of his readers

be, that, had the author not adopted a theory he was desirous of maintaining, he would have admitted miraculous agency in them all, or in none? that his theory was to be sustained, and as it could not be by human aid, the introduction of supernatural agency became indispensable”?

One admission of Dr. Palfrey, the Reviewer things important and desirous to be remembered viz. “The Pentateuch can not have had a supernatural origin “if immoralities are commanded and erroneous and unworthy views of the Deity are presented.”

The Reviewer says, Dr Palfrey “supposes that all religious truth must be revealed directly and immediately from God, as man is incapable of discovering it for himself. (Quere) Every such revelation must be authenticated by a miracle, for without this authenticating miracle, man could not distinguish, in matters of religion truth from false hood.” The Dr’s principle “that in interpreting Scriptures, Truth should take precedence of Tradition, and that we should follow the dictates of the enlightened understanding, instead of the superstition of our fathers.” will not be



be contested by enlightened men.

But admitting that revelation has been authenticated by miracles, how will the Dr, with his admission “that if immoralities are commanded, and erroneous and unworthy views of the Deity are presented, the Pentateuch cannot have had a supernatural origin”, answer the Reviewer on the following points.

“Who is ready to maintain that the Almighty makes his appearance in a visible form to ~~answer~~ announce these laws, in words of the Hebrew tongue?

Are we to suppose he gives direction about “rams skins died in red, and badgers’ skin” oil for the light and spices for anointing oil?” Are all the minute rules relating to the dress and purification of the priest the soldiers, and others, to be regarded as laws [     ] [     ] by the Most High‡. Still more, will the

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‡The Reviewer might have pointed us to Leviticus Chap. 14 & 15. and several succeeding ones. for elucidations of these particulars Dr Pelfrey will perhaps say that these “regulations proceeded from Moses himself”; but it is hoped he will not say “they were submitted for divine approval, or announced as resting on Divine authority.”

God, who is the father, and whose brightest attribute is love, enact such laws as those which enjoin the the total extermination of certain tribes of the Canaanites? Is it God who commands that defenceless old men, unprotected women, innocent babes shall be savagely slaughtered with every aggression of cruelty? Shall it be said they were idolaters? What then were the Hebrews? We are indeed told that Jehovah would in like manner have exterminated all the Hebrew nation, save the descendants of Moses, had not Moses interceded for them. Can a Christian attribute such commands to the Father of Gentile and Few; to the God of Law? Our author admits that the divine origin must be given up, if it be proved that immoralities are commanded, or unworthy views of the Deity presented. One would suppose the question then was already settled, for both the immorality and the unworthy views are apparent.”

“Now, says the Reviewer, he (the Dr) is bound by his own assertions to admit one of two things, either these rude anthropomorphic representations of the Divine Being, are not unworthy, but true; that God is such a Being as he is here represented; or to admit the books are not of divine origin.

The Reviewer comments upon many other subjects found in Dr Palfrey's work, which we are compelled to omit (the whole occupying 70 pages). We will therefore close with some of his concluding remarks.

"The Doctor's work is not precisely such as the public expected; nor is it such a one as the wants of the public most needed. It is not the work Dr Palfrey, in justice to himself, to his position, the institution and class of Christians with which he is connected, should have produced. We fear that it will do little to enhance his reputation, or that of the University of Cambridge, to draw young men to the school in which he is a Professor, or to inspire confidence in teachers of Libral Christianity. We do not think it likely to commend ~~to commend~~ the old testament to those who have hitherto wanted confidence in it, or to subdue the strong prejudices which exist, for and wide, against the form of Christianity he is generally understood to uphold

The Reviewer nevertheless says, "we regard this book as a valuable accession to Biblical Literature, not indeed because it has accomplished everything, but because it shows an earnest desire to do something. It tracts an important subject, and with more freedom and critical sagacity

than it has been before treated in this Country, and puts forth principles which in other hands, may lead to valuable results. It breaks the ice, and lays open the Jewish antiquities to the free action of reason and philology. It commences a movement, that may continue long and go far before it is arrested. In these respects the publication is opportune, and should be cordially greeted.”

If Dr Palfrey’s work deserves no higher commendation than the Reviewer gives it, I very much regret it; for I had ~~had~~ anticipated much useful matter in the work I had hoped he would clear away the rubbish which had long being around our systems of theology, like a milstone, as the writer remarks, “sufficient to sink them.” A belief in the divinity of Moses’ writings, are not, in my opinion essential to ~~the~~ a belief of Christianity. They are to be respected as ancient history, and when we rank them with Herodotus, Josephus and some others of old times, do we not give them as high an elevation as they deserve. To me it seems that Christianity can never appear in an inviting form, so long as it is essentially connected with the [     ] History of the Jewish nation.

Monday 8 Last night a strong front Morn fair and wind north. Afternoon the sky perfectly clear of clouds the air almost calm, and nature puts on a serenity of the most pleasing kind. (Life of Brandt by Col. Stone)

A Philadelphia paper contains an Extract from Stone's life of the Indian Chief Brant. This work has engaged the attention of Col. Stone sometime, and no doubt will be interesting to Americans, who have often heard of ~~him~~ his subject and sometimes felt him. Wyoming witnessed his ferocity in 1778. he was called a half-blood and ~~was~~ received a sort of education at Dartmouth College or the Indian School at Lebanon Connecticut; Drake says the latter, and that he was a full blooded Indian of Onondago. His education appears to have been slight nor was his natural roughness much smoothed {—} by it.

Perhaps it rendered him more capable of inflicting his cruelties on our frontier inhabitants. Some late attempts have been made to exculpate Brandt from some of the cruelties attributed to him during the war of the revolution, but, I believe, without much success. But before making up an opinion of his character, let us listen to his story by Col. Stone (See No. 9, page 100 for notice of the work)

Tuesday 9. Last night a 2d Strong front, morn fair & southerly wind, Afternoon partially cloudy. Air moderate

Western Sickness

The Papers state that sickness to an alarming extent now prevails throughout the states of Indiana, Illinois, and Michagan. It is attributed to recent drought and sultry weather, having dried up the brooks &c. leaving large quantities of vegetable matter to decompose in the sun. Letters from our Deerfield immigrants in Illinois, had informed us of the same, though they have been rather reserved on the subject, probably to prevent alarm in their friends here. Yesterly a letter was received from the new settlement, near Shebeville stating that Mrs. Clesson, the old lady who left home last summer with the family of her son Joseph, was dead her age 84 years & too old for an emigrant from New England. The season has proved un healthy in several other western & southern states. And there it is, generally, with countries while new, in latitudes about, and south of ours. Such was the case in the western part of the state of New-York on its first settlement, and even here in early times. Whether  
emigrants

emigrants by a residence in New countries become acclimated and less liable to fevers, the prevalent diseases, is a question not yet settled. Pack, the Geographer of Illinois, thinks the older residents are as liable to sickness as new emigrants; but in this he disagrees with some medical writers in the northern states. If the Country should continue unhealthy after it is fully and thoroughly cultivated, I mean those about our latitude, it would be an anomaly, not readily accounted for. The country in general consists of vast acres of alluvium, and of course will require time for the decomposition of its vegetable matter. When the deleterious gas is dissipated, I think the country must become healthy. And even now, one would suppose, the dry grass covered prairies would be salubrious. Perhaps however turning them up with the plow, may open new sources for miasma and then contaminate the air. Emigration to the western country, it is said, is still great; but probably the sickness of this season will give it a check. Aside from this liability to epidemics, the inducements to emigrate from countries where lands are high, would be irresistible, See Dr Caldwell on Climate, page 25, of this No.

Wednesday 10 Morn fair; and the last night being some cloudy no front was seen; the southern wind yesterday brought a warmer air. Wind this morn NE Sundown clouds cover the sky~

Boston Quarterly Review No. 4

This number (for October) completes the Vol. 1838. The success of the work, says the Editor, has not been great, but more than are looked for, and he regards the Review no longer as an experiment. Our next No. he says, will commence with new coverage, and contain a somewhat elaborate exposition of the New French school of Philosophy, and an article on Animal Magnetism by an adept. The vol. comprises 516 pages handsomely printed on good paper~

Many articles in the vol. have commanded my attention; I have admired its perspicuous style, and often the force of the arguments in support of the positions advanced. In the Review of Mr Ripley's Specimens of Foreign Literature the Review speaks in high commendation of the two Vols. now out and says "they are just the volumes for us young Americans." But the preference he is disposed to give of French and German Literature over



that of the English, I think is hardly sustained. If the latter is tinged with the monarchical and aristocratic principles of England, so must the former be of those of France and Germany. In this preference may there not be some undue prejudice in the mind of the Editor? Mr Ripley's attempt to make us acquainted with French & German literature is highly laudable, and it is hoped he was met with due encouragement. We in the Country are in great want of this information. But we say give us of all the Literature and science of the enlightened nations of Europe, and of the world.

Highly pleased as we have been with many of the articles in the ~~Vol of the review~~ Review, from one, in the last member, headed American Liberties and American Slavery, morally and politically illustrated. By S.B. Treadwell, we must withhold assent, and even express our disgust. That the Editor, after displaying so much ingenuity as he generally has throughout the volume, should ~~write~~ admit such an article, without remarks is an anomaly. In the whole 27 pages, comprising this Review, no thing but the grossest sophistry is to be found. And I should think myself as avidly employed

in attempting to refute ~~him~~ it as if he had ~~attempted~~ undertaken to prove that the propositions of Euclid were false Will it be said that the Review wants patronage, and that the article was penned to obtain it in the Slave holding states? We should be sorry to believe this was the design. The attempt of the Reviewer appears similar to that of a wordy Lawyer who is supporting a ~~bad~~ cause in a plea to a jury when he knows it is a bad one. The sophistry, however, is harmless, for it is very superficial, and easily perceived. I regret to find occasion for these remarks, but truth elicited and justice demanded them.

One peculiarity is noticed in the Reviews. The title of a Book is placed at the head of an article, like a text to a sermon, and little or nothing is said of the work. The writer chooses his theme which the title suggests, and pursues it without touching the statement and arguments of the book; thus presenting an essay rather than a review~

Thursday 11. Rain last night morn cloudy & south breeze. Afternoon broken clouds, & sun shine frequently the air moderate

Friday

Friday 12 Morn fair wind south air moderate  
afternoon cloudy with some rain

Cattle Show

Yesterday and this day, the annual Cattle show at Northampton was held; the address by Rev. Henry Colman, an agricultural Commissioner. But a few people attended from Franklin & Hampden Countries on account of the distance, and hence the animals exhibited were principally brought from the vicinity of Northampton. This difficulty might easily be remedied by appointing or fixing, viewing stations in each County, on different days, where a Committee appointed by the society, should attend to inspect the animals and machines & implements exhibited, and report on the last day at Northampton, where all light articles might be sent, as at present. I have heretofore treated up this plan.

Saturday 13 Morn cloudy soon clear & wind NW.  
Afternoon clear air and rather cold. Sun set mackerel back clouds appear in the west.

Letter from my son Arthur to Isabella, dated Paris  
October 1<sup>st</sup> received this day—States that he has

been sick, and that the Country has been a perfect hospital for six weeks. At Danville, containing 600 inhabitants as many as five have been buried in one day; and hundreds have died along the Illinois River.

Says he led out 30 men to work on his road and in 15 days 29 were taken sick, but all he states is now over (mainly) as there has been a change of weather; a few are a little unwell with the ague The diseases were fever of every form

In Indiana, Missouri, part of Ohio and Kentucky the sickness has been equally severe. Of his men from Deerfield, C.S. Williams & G. Fuller are the only persons that have escaped (entirely).

During the cool summers that have prevailed for several years past, the western states have been pretty free of fevers, and our emigrants were led to believe that they were as ~~free~~ healthy as the old states; a return of hot summers may produce a different belief and in a degree check the current of emigration to that quarter.

The sickness cannot be attributed to latitude alone; for it prevailed in Michagan & in Wisconsin; but to the unusual heat of the summer and the extraordinary drought. added to the common miasma of alluvial soils in new

countries and especially of level ones.

In his Enquiry into the causes of the increase of belious and intermitting fevers in Pennsylvania, Dr Rush says, one “cause of the late increase of these fevers, must be sought far in the different and unequal quantities of rain which have fallen within these last seven years.

While our creeks and rivers, from the uniformity of seasons, were confined to steady bounds, there was little or no exhalation of febrile miasmata from their shores. But in the dry summers of 1780, 1781, and 1782, by reducing our creeks and rivers far below their ancient marks; which the wet springs of 1784 and 1785, by swelling them both beyond their natural heights, have, when they have fallen, as in the former case, left a large and extensive surface of moist ground exposed to the action of the sun, and of course to the generation and exhalation of fertile miasmata.: The inhabitants of Egypt, he adds, are always healthy during the overflowing of the Nile, these fevers appear only after the recess of the river” “Rains which fall in our state after the middle of September, are so far from producing fevers, that they generally prevent them,

and he believes they act, in the autumnal season, by diluting and thus destroying the febrile miasmata that were produced by the heat and moisture of the preceding summer.” Vide Medical Enquiries Vol. 2 p. 269 & 270

A full history of the Western sickness, this season is necessary for determining, whether the Doctor’s theory will apply to it~ Who will give it?

Sunday 14. Morn cloudy, though the clouds are broken wind south. Day generally cloudy & air moderate

Monday 15 Rain morn north breeze Cloudy most of the day, and evening clear.

Tuesday 16 Morn fair Southerly breeze, which increased to a brisk wind at noon Shifted to NW. of course wasting cooler air. (Frost this morning says a neighbor) Sun set, wind again South.

Wednesday 17. Morn fair Wind NW. and cool.

Frosts are now common and will not here after be particularly noted, unless attended with uncommon severity.

The day fair throughout. The woods are assuming the autumnal hue

A Paris, Illinois, paper of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, contains an account of the Western sickness, corroborative of the late

intelligence from my son Arthur. “Many are yet dangerously ill, though it is hoped that the worst is passed. Considering the immense number of cases (it is remarked) the diseases can by no means be called fatal; and most of those that have proved so, might have been remedied by the aid of a physician in season, or were aggravated by doses of the thousand quack nostrums which we regret to say, have been so freely circulated through our state “We only wonder that, in their credulity the people do not get poisoned to death oftener than they do.”

This credulity is found among the uninformed people of all countries, but most in new ~~countries~~ ones where science is often at a low ebb. Skillful physicians are of great value in all places; but it often happens that they cannot find support where they are wanted. Such cannot indeed cure all diseases, but they can do much to alleviate them; and often by early application, cure them. The science of medicine is progressive let us then encourage its study, in its most improved forms, while we give no encouragement to [     ]. Let it not be understood that

I would depreciate the value of a skillful and experienced nurse whose assistance is of the utmost importance

Many these are found among females whose advice is not to be despised in cases of simple disorders, and who may be trusted in prescribing simple medicine.

But when fatal epidemics prevail science of an elevated order, must step forward to check the formidable enemy, and here she may be baffled. The rationale of fevers is not yet, and perhaps never will be fully understood by our most scientific physicians; but if from human skill, successful aid is expected it is from such men. Hence then when we perceive a disposition among the uninformed part of society to undervalue science, as is too often the case, every laudable effort should be made to remove the fatal error.

Thursday 18. Morn fair wind NW. the day fair and pleasant throughout. At sun set a few well marked stratus clouds were seen, with some beautifully characterized mackerel backs. Our woods are fast changing to the yellow color, and our maples on the street begin to drop their foliage.



Taylor's Diegesis.

This work has recently been presented to the public from a Boston Press under the following title: The Diegesis: being a Discovery of the Origin, Evidence, and Early History of Christianity, never before or elsewhere so fully and faithfully set forth. By the Rev. Robert Taylor AB & M.R.C.S.

The origin of this work will appear from the following statement.

In the year 1824, a society was formed in London, called the Christian Evidence Society; claiming to promote the love of truth, the practice of virtue, and the influence of universal benevolence, as opposed to foolish and contradictory systems of religious faith &c. The writings for discussing the evidences of the Christian Religion were to be held every Tuesday evening, in the society's Areopagus, 86 Cannon Street, City, to which all respectable persons, upon observance of the necessary regulations were admissible. The Rev. Roland Taylor who is said to have been a regular and canonically ordained Clergyman of the Established Church was appointed orator and Chaplin of the society.

In 1827, Mr Taylor made a public challenge to all  
ministers

ministers and Preachers, to come forward and show if they could, the [ ] of the four grand propositions, which, in the society's manifesto, are declared to have been, "as far as to them appeared," fully and unanswerably demonstrated.

The propositions were,

1. That the Scriptures, of the New Testament, were not written, by the persons, whose names they bear.
2. That they did not appear, in the times to which they refer.
3. That the persons of whom they treat, never existed.
4. That the events, which they relate, never happened.

To the propositions were appended the outline of what were supposed proofs of their truth.

So direct an attack upon the established religion of the Country, was not suffered to pass unnoticed by the Government of England; Mr Taylor was prosecuted, convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment in Oakham jail.

Nor were the Clergy inactive. The Rev. John Pye Smith DD came out with a reply to the Mr Taylors challenge, but it appears he wrote under irritation, and made use of angry epithets, which necessarily lessened the value of his work,

To this, Mr Taylor wrote a reply from the prison at Oakham, to which he gave the title Syntagma or the Evidences of the Christian Religion, being a Vidication of the Manifesto of the Christian Evidence Society against the assaults of the Christian Instruction Society.

As this work was pointed to Dr. Smith, it was rather too personal; but it evinced much skill and shrewdness at retort; and that the writer had not made up his opinions without a considerable examination of ancient authorities.

During his imprisonment Mr Taylor wrote the outline of his Diegesis which, as it was impossible that he should have access to the numerous Books which he quotes, I conclude he finished after his liberation. The work contains 440 pages, and treats largely upon the subjects he has touched in his Syntagma.

In his Diegesis Mr Taylor endeavors to prove that Christianity had its origin among the Hindoos of India, that it was there brought to Egypt, where Christ was for a long time, known under various names, as of Apollo, [ ] Bacchus Prometheus &c. and finally ~~it~~ Christianity was the religion of the Essenes of Palestine where it was taken ~~adopted~~

and written out by the sect calling themselves Christian. He denies that the Gospels of Mathew Mark & John were written by them; and asserts that Luke wrote his as he had heard it from Peter, and the acts of the Apostles as Paul delivered it to him. And finally comes to the conclusions advanced in his two last propositions, “that the persons of whom the scriptures treat never existed and that the events, which they relate never happened.”

Mr Taylor examines the evidence deduced from the Apostolic and Christian ~~other~~ Fathers, down to the close of the fourth century, and gives many extracts from their writings which he thinks support his propositions.

To one unacquainted with ~~the~~ ancient languages, and the numerous old ~~ancient~~ books which Mr Taylor quotes, it is impossible to come to a decisive opinion of the weight of his authorities in support of his propositions. This must be the work of men who have spent their time in the study of ancient philology.

To me however, it appears, that if Jesus and the Evangelists never in fact existed, the numerous writers ~~of~~ among the apostolic and other Fathers, would not have recognized them in the manner they have, as cited by Mr Taylor himself.

That the Religion of Chrishna (or Krishna) may have been brought from India to Egypt and there ~~been~~ adopted, is not very improbable, and if some of its moral principles, if it had any, were embraced by the early Christians it would not, in my opinion, furnish ~~be any~~ reasons why we should reject others found in the gospels. Moral principles must have existed among all nations, in which ~~have~~ the useful arts and sciences have flourished; and may we not say they are eternal and unchangeable?

The Diegesis of Mr Taylor need excite no alarm. If it is not well founded it will be refuted; but if it is the Truth it ought to be regarded. If Christianity will not stand the test of thorough investigation, then it must fall. If it is founded on a solid basis it will endure. To me it appears that, as it has heretofore been presented by old theologians, it is defective in many points; but these I am ready to believe, are corruptions; and it gives me satisfaction to find that we have, especially in New England an enlightened Clergy, who are making successful exertions to clear them away.

Mr. Taylor professes to believe that Christianity in on the whole, is injurious to ~~society~~ civil society. He says

“I have steadily maintained the irresistible conviction {—} which first induced me to renounce the Christian faith, the impregnable strength of which still fortifies my mind in that renunciation; and which, when it can, by evidence of history, fact, or reason, be conquered from me, I will, as when the capitol is captured, no longer contend for the borders and outskirts of a conquered empire. That position is that the influence of Christianity, on the human mind is altogether a Bad and Vitalizing influence, that it hardens men’s hearts, stupefies their understanding, and vandalizes their manners; that it corrupts nature’s secret juices in them, and turns the human kindness to gall and aconite.”

The convictions of Mr Taylor seem to be strong, and one would suppose he had formed them, from a view ~~presenting~~ of all the {—} cruelties, barbarities and injustice of which many of the professors of Christianity have avoided themselves, in the exercise of their political power and truly many of them have been horrible and shuddering to the human mind. But had he attributed these excesses to the Corruptions of Christianity, which are always found where knowledge science has made little progress, he would have been more

consistent and convincing. In our present orthodoxy something of the genius of which Mr Taylor complains is still to be seen, and were it not held in check by enlightened men of our times, I am not sure that we might not see the excesses ~~fruit~~ of its blind zeal in its former hedians colors On the corruption of Christianity, one of our ~~of our~~ best Unitarian Clergymen, expresses himself in terms not much less ~~severe~~ decisive than those of Mr Taylor. He says “This system (orthodoxy) cannot be proved to be true, till nature and life and consciousness are all proved to be false; till the ties of affection are proved to be all snares, and its sympathies all sorrows; till the tenor of life is proved to be a tissue of his, and the beneficence of nature, all mockery, and the dictates of humanity all charms and delusions And, he adds, that ~~that~~ the principles falsify all history, and all experience; throw dishonor upon all earthly heroism and magnanimity and that it cannot and will not be endorsed by the world” (Rev Mr Dewey)

In his remarks on Unitarianism, which now and then occur, Mr. Taylor expresses himself with some severity, and he seems to be willing to believe that the doctrine of the trinity is

is found in the scriptures. By retaining this defective doctrine in these books [—] does Mr Taylor think they will be more vulnerable to his attacks, and give him an easier victory? For the same purpose he might wish to find the principles of Calvin there; but in vain we think he would search the scriptures for ~~find~~ these exploded principles, which never were seen there by eyes open to the light of reason and common sense.

From Mr Taylor's books we learn that he has been prosecuted and imprisoned for publishing his investigations and opinions of the Christian Religion, as an heretic. That a nation possessing so much science and good sense as the British, should still retain in its laws, a provision for the punishment of Heresy is a matter of astonishment; and proves that it is not yet wholly divested of some of the absurdities of the dark ages.

What is Heresy? Take its definition from an approved Dictionary. "An opinion of private men different from that of the Catholic and Orthodox Church" In another it is defined "an error in some assertive point of Christian faith, publicly avowed and obstinably maintained." But who is to be the judge of this? Protest  
antism



antism was once, ~~the~~ real heresy, and so is Unitarianism now. Should the latter gain an ascendancy with ~~and~~ a majority of the people, orthodoxy would be heresy. A commentator on the second definition above, says, "Particular modes of belief or unbelief, therefore, which have no tendency to overturn Christianity itself or to sap the foundation of morality, cannot be held as falling within the above definition. It is properly the obstinacy, and not the error, that is considered as constituting the character of heresy. When a man embraces any opinion, however erroneous, but is at the same time humble and ingenuous, really ~~and~~ desirous of receiving for the light and instruction and giving its due weight to every argument that is argued against him, he is not guilty of heresy."

Here obstinacy constitutes the crime! But we again ask, who shall judge of this?

The laws of England have been severe against heretics, and many have been burned at the stake for the crime. Aye! they were obstinate. On the increase of light, the laws were modified and rendered less sanguine extending only to prohibitions of offices & places of trust

in the government. The modified law however were found to be difficult to execute, as the people became more enlightened; and in 1813, they ~~it~~ were repealed. But still the crime of heresy is an indictable offence under the common law, and continues to be enforced; though it is said to be the wish of many in ~~England~~ Great Britain that their statute books may be entirely reserved from the opprobrium of penal laws in the province of religion, and that the rights of conscience may be forever confirmed, as not controllable by human laws, nor amenable to human tribunals. Yet with these enlightened sentiments, the nation clings in a degree, to its persecution, and still gives its heretics the high van  
age ground of dating their productions from the per  
sons in which they are incarcerated.

Though Great Britain may be averse to our republic and principles in regard to religion, we will here [ ]  
[—] with one sample, which we hope more light will induce him to adopt. It is the act passed by the assembly of Virginia in 1786. After a preamble declaring the freedom of the mind, it is as follows  
“Be it enacted &c. That no man shall be compelled to frequent  
or

or support any religious worship, place or minister whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but that all men shall be free to profess, and by arguments to maintain, their opinions in matters of religion, and that the same shall in no wise diminish enlarge, or affect their civil capacities.”

The Religious Laws of several of the states are based upon the same principles, and in Massachusetts they do not essentially differ. We have one however which varies from the act cited. I allude to the act relating to Blasphemy, and contumeliously reproaching the holy word of God.

As regards Blasphemy as defined in the law one would suppose that in a civilized community no one could be found ~~who could~~ ~~be~~ so foolish as to be guilty of it. When it occurs I think there is good ground for suspecting derangement of ~~the~~ intellect. But in the recent case of Abner Kneeland in our state, it can hardly be reasonable to suppose a derangement of mind {—— He, I understand, believes in no God, other than what is seen in matter,

or in other words, no other than the qualities & proper ties of matter. If he thinks he has sufficient reasons for this belief, let him believe it, and rest under the stigma which thinking men will attach to it; and sure I am, that his followers will not be induced to give up their belief, by the punishment inflicted by our laws. The gross manner in which Kneeland published his sentiments in his paper was recoiling to the minds of those of a “different belief; but I would not punish him for his opinion: the contempt of the public would be a more effectual check to such indiscretion

In punishing for a “contumelious reproach of the word of God,” there may be danger; for honest men differ in regard to this code. Some of our most enlightened Clergy are of opinion that the scriptures contain much that is not the word of God, and are honest by endeavoring to separate the pure from the dross. A rigid orthodox man may believe that the work of Dr Priestly on the Corruption of Christianity, is a contumelious reproach of the Scriptures, while others are persuaded that the Dr is one of the strongest supporters of them. Leave them to all perfect freedom of opinion & investigation, and

stigma to those who obstinably embrace grossly absurd opinions, without investigation; and where any attempt to compel us, vi et armis to this mode of thinking, punish them. This, I think, is the true policy.  
Friday 19 Rainy morn which continued through the day, though moderately wind northerly foggy and dark. Rain continued in the evening.

Dr. Williams informs that fevers are somewhat prevalent in some towns in this part of the Country—Is this owing to the hot season? Our valley is generally healthy, and fevers are seldom seen ~~here~~ in our village  
Saturday 20 Morn fair wind N.W. & brisk, many scattering clouds through the day, and the air moderate.

Sunday 21. Morn fair, wind N.W. Many Cumulo stratus clouds occasionally covering the sun Air moderate At sun set, sky wholly covered

Monday 22 Morn fair wind S.W. brisk. Day very fine & warm air.

Our newspapers are now filled with electioneering pieces, each party crying out destruction, if their favorite candidates do not succeed in the approaching election. We have

among us the Whig, the democratic, the anti License Law the anti-Slavery & some other parties, all upon the alert. Two Candidates are in nomination for Governor, Everett and Morton, and how these parties will amalgamate, I know not. What a pity it is, that we are subjected to such an animal bluster. Give us an elective government, but one in which the people are not kept in a constant turmoil; one in which honest and peaceable men may enjoy their rights and privileges, without an eternal contention. We have plenty of men fit for the highest offices, who, when duly elected, should command our confidence, so long as they administer the government according to the principles of the constitution. But this is not our course: as soon as the successful candidate has taken his seat opposition is set up by the defeated party, and {——} new clamors raised to render him unpopular, with a view to the next election; and thus the leaders of the opposition fill their newspapers with their insidious criticisms ~~claims~~ to work up the people to vote with them the next opportunity. In a free government where all are eligible to office, this is natural, and would be harmless, were it not

that the honest part of the people, are sometimes induced to believe these artful leaders are [     ] by patriotism. A due degree of watchfulness of {——} men in office is not amiss. But to suppose them to become suddenly callous to the welfare of their country because they are for a short term elevated to seats of honor, would be to suppose men ~~are~~ in fact, naturally depraved, as is held by a certain religious sect still lingering among us. To me it appears that the shortness of the terms of office, as prescribed by our Constitutions are a grand guard against encroachments of men in power. Who are ~~If~~ instrumental in passing evil laws they are to feel the effects, when they retire from their places, as well as the people. Were they to hold their seats during life, and their descendants were to take their places, the case would be different; but here our Constitutions are the barriers. Let us then see that these are strictly regarded. When this is done in a country where all have the liberty of voting it would be preposterous to suppose a few dishonest men who are elevated to places for short terms, could destroy the liberties of the people. In our state

the greatest danger is from the extravagant salaries allowed to some of our elevated officers. These are attracting baits to the false patriots who will spare no pains to seize them for the gratification of their cupidity. The salaries in Massachusetts would be less extravagant were it not for the great influence of the representation of our rich and populous towns and cities on the seaboard, where the profits of trade create extravagance in living, and dollars are considered of no more value than cents, in the farming towns in the interior. In States distant from the Sea Coast, where the towns are more equal, the Salaries are generally much lower. And then it is, when we tell a rich man in Boston that 2500 dollars is a fair compensation for the Governor, he calls it a paltry sum, and so it may be, when sealed by his profits; but to enable him to judge correctly of the amount of the salaries, let him ~~him~~ seat himself a few years up on one of our best Country farms, distant from the seabord, and he will find that dollars are not obtained without hard labor and strict economy. When salaries are reduced to a proper level, the struggles for office will be less violent, & honest men more respected.



Tuesday 23 Morn fair and calm at noon wind south west, and the day very fair & pleasant.

This day Dr. Williams and his wife sat out for Willoughby, State of Ohio, where he is engaged to deliver Lectures in the college at that place, on material medica & jurisprudence. I handed him a memorandum containing queries in relating to the state of Ohio. He is to be absent about 2 months. and leaves a partner in his place, Dr. Eels, a respectable young man.

The death of Capt David Strong of Northampton aged 79. On the 18<sup>th</sup> instant is announced in the papers. Capt. Strong's mother was sister to mine; (Kings) for many years he worked freight boats on the Connecticut from Northampton to Hartford, and was esteemed for his care, skill and fidelity in the business, by which he acquired a considerable property

Wednesday 24. Cloudy morn ~~and calm~~ and rainy breeze from the north. The day rainy and dark. Air moderate.

A gentleman called on me of the title & name of Doct Shelton from the city of New York. His object he stated to be, to gain information of the mineralogy

and geology of this town & county. He seemed to be unacquainted with Professor Hitchcock's Report of the Geology of Massachusetts, which I showed him. It seemed to engage his attention, but finding our region secondary he was not disposed to examine it, as he rushed to view ~~examine~~ one that was primitive. Who named me to him, I know not, probably Lawrence our tavern keeper. These sciences have many students of late years. Received a letter from son Arthur dated Oct 13<sup>th</sup> at Paris; acknowledges the receipt of mine of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant. States that they have no new cases of sickness; that some who have been sick and unable to work ~~and~~ will return to Deerfield (meaning of the Deerfield boys).

Thursday 25. Clouds still cover the sky- and a wind breezes from the south. Afternoon occasionally fair and some rain at 4 o'clock a brilliant Rain bow the sun  $1\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour high, of course the summit of the bow high; the exterior bow rather indistinct. Perhaps no phenomena in the heavens are more satisfactorily described and explained than those of the rain bow, upon Newton principles  
of

of the prismatic colours. Before the nature of these were made known by that wonderful man, the appearance of the bow must have excited astonishment as it would now, in the uninformed, were it not so frequently seen. Like other common phenomena it causes to suppose, although the rationale is not understood by them.

The habit of looking into the causes of things is certainly commendable, though we cannot explain the whole. By this habit many have made discoveries of things of high importance to man; and nothing leads so directly to the proofs of the existence of a great first cause as a thorough examination of nature as it is presented to our view. Wonderful indeed is the picture! Astonishing the contrivance! Man is indeed indowed with great powers of mind; but often all his researches, have limited!

We look at the sun We inquire “Whence are thy beams thy everlasting light?” Other things have their beginning and end; “but thou art forever the same rejoicing in the brightness of thy course?” Yet, one  
inquires

inquires what is this amidst the works of God? Is it not a point, and as nothing in the firmament of heaven!”

Friday 26 Morn fair with south wind and day fair throughout and very pleasant.

Pamphlets on the License law are sent into the county from Boston making strong appeals to people to sustain it. They are elegantly written’ but probably will not be read by the opposers of the law; and if they should will not have much effect for the people have taken their ground, and will maintain it right or wrong. Men thus circumstanced will not be persuaded to alter their course, even when wrong, unless gentle means be used and time given to cool their heated passions. The law prohibiting the sale of ardent spirits in the manner it does, is a rash attack on a fortification, which can be captained only by a slow and regular siege, in which great caution must be used; and an abandonment of ~~the siege~~ it may be wiser than to press it, when the enemy are found too strong. In elections the majority are governed by self interest, and whatever they think this is ~~they~~ whether mistaken or not, they will cast their votes for.

Saturday 27. Cloudy morn a few flakes of snow fell, followed with moderate rain Wind north and light. Afternoon fair & moderate air This day our common field is opened for cattle and horses, for one month

Sunday 28 Morn Cloudy Wind south Sun appeared before noon, but soon covered, and in afternoon some rain continued in the night

Monday 29 Morn fair and brisk. N.W. wind, part the day cloudy & a few flakes of snow fell fair towards night.

A Philadelphia paper of the 24 of October states that the sickness in Illinois continued at the last dates. Among the deaths at Peoria is that of Judge Bigelow author of the Digest of Laws. This must be Lewis Bigelow late of Petersham in this State. Within a few years he emigrated to Peoria. As a Lawyer he was held in high estimation here and his Digest of the ~~part 12~~ of Vols of Massachusetts Reports, ~~published in 1818~~ was valuable. It appears from the preface to the work that he contemplated a continuance through subsequent volumes. But then it seems he did not complete ~~undertake~~

Tuesday 30 Morn partially cloudy Breeze from S.  
Afternoon fair and pleasant.

Corn Crop Our farmers have now gathered their crop and it excellent as to quality, brought hale and sound, scarcely a soft ear is found at the husking. In many cases the corn ~~planted~~ was of a smaller variety than we formerly planted and the crop less productive: but where the old crop was raised it was large, and perhaps never better the effect of the heat of the past summer.

Wednesday 31 Cloudy morn with a fall of snow sufficient to whiten the ground breeze from N. W. Afternoon fair & snow gone, though some flakes of snow fell towards evening

The Election. As the day approaches, the political parties wax hotter and hotter, and it is amusing to observe the opposite sentiments advanced by them. On the one hand it is said, that no settled political principles has governed the past or present Administrations, unless it be one which ~~for the last~~ has hurled ruin upon the heads of thousands; that passion and the interest of the party, have been  
the

the chief governing powers in the general government for the last nine years; that from a pretend democracy we are verging towards and are near to, a real despotism; that the present administration commenced its projects without foresight, and prosecuted them without wisdom & and with a total richness of consequences: and that consistency has fled and hidden her face since the ascendancy of that party which has assumed a monopoly of the name of democrat.

On the other hand it is declared, that our trust in the President of the U.S., and in the general government administration of the country, is greatly enhanced by their recent decided, unshaken stand, in vindicating the rights of the people against the flagrant usurpations of a monied aristocracy, and that we cordially tender to those distinguished functionaries [ ] our hearty homage for the display of such transcendent talents and unsullied integrity, brought so successfully to bear upon the national prosperity by frustrating the hostile, iniquitous designs of all the enemies of the public liberty and happiness.

These are the opposite opinions, as expressed by the Whig and democratic parties : Some others are equally clamorous in support of three principles; and he who dares to be calm and unruffled amidst the scramble, is censored by all for his indifference.

Not so fast gentlemen! Our country is not quite so near the bank of ruin. The industrious and economical still live, and are happy and prosperous. The majority govern and will govern, and so long as they elect their rulers upon the principles of self interest, the interest of the greatest number will ~~will~~ bear the sway. When it is otherwise, the administration of the government will be changed by the people That evils exist, to the extent the present parties would make us believe, is not to be admitted ~~believed~~; and in a short time these parties will sink into oblivion, and wonder at the former fury of their heated zeal. Others will rise and some forever exist. But the interest of the majority will govern, and this is according to the spirit of our constitutions. The cry of danger from the power of the federal government is a bug bear, so long as the union



is composed of so many distinct sovereignties, under the control of the votes of the people. The people may indeed run blindly into errors, but their interests will soon bring them back. A Combination of contiguous state governments may produce a division of the Union; but the evils ~~consequences~~ which must ~~would~~ follow, would soon convince them of their folly. Here lies our real danger, and not in the scramble of designing men for office, whose interests are different from those of the people. Let us cherish industry, economy education and pure morality, and we shall continue a happy and prosperous people.

In conclusion, one further remark offers, If the state of our Country is as bad as the parties ~~which have been~~ named, represent it to be, then our situation is miserable indeed, and we may cease our boasts of the privileges we enjoy over those of the kingly governments of Europe. Let an intelligent stranger pass over our Country and what will he see but prosperity, excepting southern slavery. And if he reads our newspapers, will he not conclude, that among us there are certain restless individuals ~~who are uneasy~~ while the great body of the people are contented

Thursday 1 Morn fair—last night the frost severe  
air calm. At noon south breeze. Afternoon fair &  
fine, though rather cool.

Last evening received a Letter from son Arthur,  
by which it appears he has just completed the survey of  
a route for a Rail, or Turnpike, road from Charleston in  
Coles County, via Marshall in Clark County, to the Wa  
bash river near Darwin, the distance not stated.  
perhaps 35 or 40 miles. The letter dated at Paris Octr  
20<sup>th</sup>. When, it states, all were well and now healthy.

It is singular that a hot summer should have produced  
an epidemic in the western Country so fatal as it has  
been the season past. What is the nature of the mi  
asma found in New Countries? or ~~rather~~ how does it  
differ from that of old ones? or, rather ~~once more~~ does it differ  
only in quantity? But whatever it be, it is a fact that  
its virus generally ceases when frosts commence.

Friday 2. Fair morn snow last night= ½ inch. Wind  
south. Afternoon fair, warm and very pleasant, which  
entirely melted the snow

Mailed a letter to my son Arthur at Paris, in an  
swer to his of the 20<sup>th</sup> of October (The letter dated Nov. 1)

Saturday 3 Morn fair Calm air. Afternoon  
wind south, very clear and pleasant

Sunday 4 Morn cloudy wind south a moderate ~~little~~ rain  
which continued through the day & warm air.

Monday 5 Rainy in morn, dark clouds  
Wind North. Day continued wet throughout and  
rather mild

Tuesday 6 morn fair and brisk S.W. wind.  
Day part cloudy & part fair & bright sun. not cold.

Wednesday 7 Morn partially cloudy wind north  
afternoon sun and nearly calm.

Thursday 8 Rain morn with fog and calm air.  
Afternoon a south wind and warm air which drive  
off the fog. Rain most of the day.

Friday 9 Morn cloudy, but clear about 9 oclock  
Wind N.W. veered to SW. afternoon- Clouds now gen  
erally seen, and cirro stratus. The wind during the day was  
very variable at sun set it had again wind and was NW.  
The sky very clear.

Saturday 10 Fair morn wind NW & cold A fair day  
at night nearly calm

Sunday 11 Morn fair last night cold; wind south fair throughout the day.

Monday 12 Morn fair and cold, though partially overspread wind North. Fair day--not cold.

This day we elect our Governor, Lt. Governor, Senators ~~and~~ Representatives, and members of Congress in the lower house. Roused by the influence of zealous leaders of parties, the people have been induced to believe that we have come to a crisis of great importance in which the highest interests are at stake. This will even be the case in an elective government, and the people will often be alarmed when no occasion for it exists. So it is at present. A calm view of our affairs will evince that we are not in a situation at all alarming. We are at peace with all nations, trade and agriculture flourish we have no oppressive taxes, and property of all sorts is in good demand and commands a high ~~good~~ price. If a few minor difficulties exist they ought not to throw us into a pit; they will soon subside & others ~~will~~ rise. These evils are necessarily attached to a free government. Let us remain calm & all will be well.

Tuesday 13 Cloudy morn. Wind S.W. air moderate. Day cloudy throughout.

The votes yesterday for Governor were	votes
Everett	124
Morton	<u>147</u>
Diff.	<u>23</u>

Amos Russell was elected a Representative 142  
a second Do no choice

Member of Congress James C Alvord	130
Senator Rufus Saxton	130
“ Ephraim Hastings	100
“ Thadeus Colman	39

On a 2d trial for Representative this day

Col. Asa Stebbins was elected

Morton's plurality it is presumed was the effect of the License Law.

By late papers it appears the ~~Canada~~ disturbances of in Canada are renewed; and it said that numerous parties are formed and under secret oaths in and of the Canada Insurgents, on over side of the separating Line. We are a restless people

Wednesday 14 Morn fair Wind South air moderate afternoon wind NW. and very pleasant.

Further of the Canada Insurrection

The movements made are in Lower Canada, on the south of the St Lawrence, and it is stated arrangements are made to bring large bodies to the field, Say to the amount of 7 or 8000, well armed and prepared, and that in upper Canada simultaneous preparation are made

The British government have 15 or 1600 regular troops in the two ~~both~~ Provinces, ready for service, besides militia corps. With such a force to oppose them the Insurgents, it would seem, have little chance of success, unless assisted by large numbers of our people.

I can hardly believe the accounts in our papers are to be relied on. If there is a rising and an unsuccessful {——} one, sanguinary punishments will be inflicted and without mercy. Such a scene we all should regret.

If the people of Canada, or a large portion of them, are ~~are~~ determined to separate from the English government it is asked, why the nation should desire to retain them at the expense of an army? True indeed one can see no strong reasons for the retention. They Provinces are of no advantage to the British Government. and will be a dead weight.

to it, whether the opposition is quelled or not. But national pride, may induce her to hold ~~in~~ the territory, even against her interest. In time of peace it is true, she may maintain her troops in the Canadas about as cheap as in her Islands; but in a war which should demand her troops in Europe, the Canadians, with their present disposition would probably revolt. And should the United States become a military nation and come into collision with Great Britain the inhabitants of Canada might at once separate themselves from her. But if not annexed to us, they might be liable to inroads from us, whenever we choose to make them. Under such circumstances would they be as secure and happy as they are under the British government? A nation too weak to defend itself is not likely long to remain a nation, and the Canadas, though they embrace an extensive territory on the north, will never become a very populous Country, its cold climate forbids it. They will form but a narrow border along the St Lawrence and the Lakes and always be subject to inroads from us, in cases of collision.

Thursday 15. Dark rainy morn Wind North  
Rain through the day but moderate air moderate

Friday 16 Cloudy dark morn calm Same con  
tinued through out Evening broken & star light.  
wind west.

Saturday 17 Morn fair wind NW. air cool  
Day fair throughout.

Sunday 18 Clouday soon after sun rise. North  
breeze air moderate. About the middle of the afternoon  
a snow commenced & continued

Monday 19. Morn fair- wind NW, and snow of 4 inches  
the day pleasant throughout and the snow wastes  
By a letter from Dr Williams dated Willoby the 9<sup>th</sup>  
instant, we are informed that there has been consider  
able snow in that part of the Country—that the cold  
has been pretty severe, and that high winds have  
prevailed on Lake Erie, ~~which~~ and have caused ~~produced~~ much  
damage to the shipping.

Tuesday 20 Foggy at Sun rise, but clear soon  
after- breeze south. Day fair throughout

Wednesday 21 Fair SW breeze, and pleasant day.



Thursday 22. Morn Cloudy, Sun out before noon, but most of the day cloudy- south breeze. Snow melting. Various reports of the Canada insurrection, Some Skirmish have occurred. With the present British force in the Canadas it is impossible that the insurgents should succeed.

Friday 23 Morn Cloudy wind gentle at NW.

Sun out before noon and day pleasant & moderate air

Saturday 24 Morn fair Wind SW. Day cool and fair throughout. Afternoon the wind veered to NW and the air cold.

Sunday 25 Morn fair and cold Win N.W.

Day pleasant throughout. Ground free from snow in many places.

Monday 26 Morn fair- last night cold win NW. The day cold throughout; but very clear.

Tuesday 27 Morn Cloudy- Wind South

The accounts from Canada state that the insurrection continues that there has been ~~much~~ fighting about Prescott and that the patriots combat with much resolution, though generally defeated in their attacks

Wednesday 28 Morn fair wind NW. gentle. Day fair & cloudy, pleasant and not cold.

Thursday 29. Morn fair Wind SW day partly cloudy at night very clear

Letter from Dr Williams dated Willoughby Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 1838 states he shall close his Lectures the 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> and return by Pittsburg & Philadelphia. He keeps a full journal and appears pleased with the western Country.

Our Thanksgiving day by the Governors Proclamation, now generally kept annually in the Northern States. A custom I believe descended from our pilgrim Fathers. but Clergy on this day generally remind us of the good things we have enjoyed the past year, and if there have been any calamities, return thanks that they have been no worse. Among a people of good habits the day passes off in the innocent amusement and perhaps usefully; but not so where the people are of a different character.

Single horse waggon crossed our river S end street on the ice. very little snow on the ground

Friday 30 Morn fair wind SW air moderate and day very fine. Ground thawing.

Saturday Dec. 1 Morn fair wind

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> morn fair- wind South, Most of the day cloudy

Sunday 2. Cloudy morn wind SW. The day clear and cloudy alternately, and the air mild

Monday 3. Fair morn wind N.W. and cold Day fair throughout and pleasant for winter

Tuesday 4 Fair morn wind North. Latter part of day cloudy, indicating a storm

Recd. a Bundle of Books (4) from Arthur by Sheldon, and Isabelle a Letter dated Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>. In the Books was a Deed from Denis Stebbins of Land in Deerfield meadow, to Arthur W Hoyt, to be recorded at Greenfield

Why has Sheldon been so long on the journey?

A young man James Stebbins who came with Sheldon states that they sat out from Paris (Illinois) the 7<sup>th</sup> of November & took stage to Columbus Ohio; thence by the Ohio Canal to Cleveland, thence to Buffalo, & Albany to this town; and that the state rout to Columbus was very bad & slow and the whole rout tardy of course. When the Erie & Wabash Canal is completed, this difficulty will be removed. Ten days, I think will complete the route. Our

Our Newspapers say Encke's Comet is to be seen in the S.W. about 8 o'clock in the evening; though not very distantly; and they talk learnedly about its motion in a resisting medium, and of its falling into the sun  
Wednesday 5 Morn Cloudy and foggy wind South day cloudy & foggy throughout & a little wet.

Missouri Iron Mountains

Professor Shephard of Yale College visited these Mountains in October last, and corroborates the most favorable accounts we have had of them. In closing his report, which is published in the papers, he says

No one who visits the locality can for a moment doubt, situated as it is in a region of singular advantages for charcoal and mining supplies, and at no exact ~~distance~~ remove from the most remarkable channel of inland water communication his [     ], that it must at a very early day become an iron producing and manufacturing region second to no other on the face of the globe.

Thursday 6 Fair morn wind NW. Day fair and pleasant throughout very little snow on the ground and good wheeling

Friday 7 Morn fair soon cloudy and wind

west, and south at night and fair: Day rather Cold

Saturday 8 Cloudy morn South breeze. A few flashes  
snow Afternoon clouds broken

Sunday 9 Fair morn wind N.W. and cool.

Day fair with a few scattering clouds

This morning Dr Williams & wife arrived from Cleveland  
Ohio, via Beaver Pittsburg, Philadelphia, New York, New  
Haven & Hartford. Papers he brings, give accounts  
of mob proceedings at Harrisburg Penn. The Legislature at  
that place have been driven from their seats by

a collection of disorderly fellows, and the Governor  
has called on the militia to march to suppress them

The difficulty arises from the Van Burren party  
who seem determined to carry their measure vi et armis

Now may be seen the want of a proper military force  
to suppress an inconsiderate ebullition The present mili  
tia are so divided in their political sentiments that lit  
tle dependence can be placed upon them. Every gov

ernment must have a military force so strong as to ~~enforce~~ carry out & effect the  
laws, while they are laws. And hence such a military must

be ~~provided as to effect those~~ coexisting with the government There we are weak ; ~~And~~

If the militia should refuse to march, where is a coercive force to be found? Is it in the United States? But this will be militia and if they refuse the whole ends in a farce

Monday 10 Morn fair—wind South.

Cloudy afternoon. Cold day.

Received the Presidents Message to Congress, containing 6 ½ columns of close print. It reiterates many of the propositions of last year, and represents the Country as prosperous.

“The present year (it says) closes the first half century of our Federal institutions; and our system differing from all others in the acknowledged, practical and unlimited operation which it has for so long a period given to the sovereignty of the people- has now been fully tested by experience.”

Every friend of his Country would rejoice, were he sure this opinion of the President is well founded But are there no symptoms of a fatal disease in the body politic to be seen? The frequency of mobs and the impunity with which the offenders have escaped prosecution, win in New England, supposed to be the most republican part of the United States, indicates something rotten in Denmark

And the recent explosion of the political volcano at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is something more fatal.

In the Notes of Mr Jefferson on the State of Virginia written 1781 and 1782, we find the following, which seems to be at variance with President Van Buren.

“The spirit of the times may alter, will alter, our rulers will become corrupt, our people careless. +++++

“It can never be too often repeated, that the time for fixing every assential right on a legal basis, is while our rulers are honest and ourselves united. From the conclusion of this war we shall be going down hill. It will not then be necessary to resort every moment to the people for support. They will be forgotten, therefore, and their rights disregarded. They will forget themselves, but in the sole faculty of making money, and will never think of uniting to effect a due respect for their rights. The shackles, therefore, which shall not be knocked off at the conclusion of this war, will remain on us long, will be made heavier and heavier, till our rights shall revive or expire in a convulsion.” Should the people become blind to their interest this may indeed be our fate. But this

powerful principle like the laws of gravitation, never ceases to act; and let up hope that if we find perturbations in our orbit, we may not be drawn off from ~~our Orbit~~ its regular curve by any erratic body.

Tuesday 11 Morn fair winds S.W. The day rather cloudy.

Wednesday 12 Morn fair wind south air moderate. Afternoon wind SW and blustering with [     ] clouds  
This day the wife of Alvah Hawks was buried. She died very suddenly sometime after he [     ], an uncommon case.

Thursday 13 Fair morn wind South; Last night cold and day do.

Beaver City In a pamphlet written by Marcus T.C. Gould & printed in Philadelphia 1836, I find a description of this place. It consists of several villages on Beaver River in Pennsylvania, from the mouth 4 or 5 miles upwards. The River enters the Ohio 28 miles below Pittsburg, and has several fine falls & dams for water machinery; and the writer thinks there is no place in the US superior to it for manufactures; not even Pittsburg: and I must confess that if he does not prove his position, he makes out a strong case. 36 pages & a map.



Friday 14 Fair day wind south and very pleasant

Geological Survey of the State of Ohio

The first annual Report of this survey was printed at Columbus, dated Jan'y 17 1838. By WW. Mather, Principal Geologist, and the several assistants. Viz. Dr S. P. Hildreth of Marietta, Prof. JP Kirtland of Poland, Dr Locke Professor Briggs, assisted by JW Foster of Zanesville and Col. Charles Whittlesey, of Cleveland. Different Departments are assigned to the assistants. Excepting by Dr Locke, brief Reports have been made, and they contain useful matter. A full Report is to be made at the close of the work.

Col. Whittlesey has charge of the Topographical Department, and has furnished skeleton maps of townships and counties to the Geologists, preparatory to the Construction of a topographical map of the State; but without an accurate triangulation, which is not authorized by the State.

The following heights above Lake Erie (564 feet above tide water, at Albany) are given. Ohio River at Cincinnati, in its tallest state 133 feet below the Lake. Ascending the River

to Portsmouth, it rises 37 feet= 96 feet below the Lake; to Marietta 94 feet, within two feet of the lake surface, and at Beaver is 127 feet above the Lake. From Beaver to Cincinnati 420 miles, the descent is 260 feet. The upper level of the Canal in the northern part of Cincinnati is only 21 feet lower than the Lake. Highland west of Akron 560 feet above, Huron summit swamp 414 feet. Cleveland Court House 95 feet above, Fort Defiance (Canal level) 98 feet above the Lake. These heights are determined from levels that have been taken in various surveys of Engineers.

Part of the duty of the Topographer is to examine the Ancient Works found in the state; and a general description is to accompany plans when complete. But he says “the popular name of fortifications bestowed upon these ruins leads me to state that I have seen none to which the term is applicable,” though he has examined many “None of them (he says) discover elements of military strength; the principal enclosures are rectangles, or circles, weak figures, without ditches & made weaker by numerous openings, not only on the sides, but at the corners. The subordinate parts of larger works, and the small isolated ones, sometimes have ditches but always as far as I have seen, on the inside, though

cases of extensive fossa, are said to exist. The main figure always occupies ground accessible on all sides, and no spring or receptacle of water is found within the walls. Other equally good reasons might be advanced, why these structures are not adapted, and were not designed, either for attack or defense, under any supposable mode of human warfare."

Though the Topographer will not admit the ancient works to be military defenses, he says that "evidence of remote population and labor, now apparent within the state of Ohio, will when collected in one mass, surprise all who have not bestowed attention upon the subject of western Antiquities.

The objections to the military character ~~nature~~ of these works appear to me to be very inconclusive. Col. Whittlesey thinks they discover no elements of military strength, because, their forms are rectangles, circles and without ditches & made weaker by numerous openings, not only at their sides but at the corners. In some instances he admits they have ditches; but these are on the inside. Upon the principles of Vaulean and the present modes of attack ~~fort~~ ~~fiction~~ & defense they will indeed appear weak. But is he

aware of the total attractions that took place in the modes of fortifying, after the invention of gun powder and cannon; and of the changes of structure of military defenses among the ~~ancient?~~ moderns since that time.

“The camps of the Greeks & Romans were either round, square, or oval, or rather of an oblong square figure, against surprises, it was the prevailing custom to surround them with ditches. The camps of the Anglo Saxons and Danes were generally round, as likewise those of the Anglo Normans. The Camps of the ancient Britons were of an oval form, composed of stakes, earth and stones, rudely heaped together: for the security of our Camps, whose form is a rectangle, consists in being able to draw out the troops with ease and expectation at the head of their respective encampments ‡

If in the ancient works Col. Whittlesey finds no bastions redans or other flanking parts, like modern fortifications, he can draw no argument against their structure for defense. Nor is the fact that the ditches are on the inside of any weight. since in modern times this is some

times

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‡ Jame’s Military Dictionary art. Camp

times resorted to in palisaded or stockade works; & our circular works are held by some Engineers as preferable to the straight curtains of Vaulean.

The want of springs or receptacles of water within the works the Topographer thinks an objection to their military use These may have disappeared, and I believe their works are in most cases found in the vicinity of rivers or lakes or ponds, which would furnish water In inland Countries these works are often found on plains; but where there are hills properly situated, they are constructed on them. Some that I have seen in the western part of the State of New-York, were very judiciously chosen in this respect, and the parapet was highest where the hill was the least abrupt.

But without introducing arguments for or against the use of these works from this structure, one thing is certain: If we admit that our western Country has at a remote period been filled with a numerous population, than there must have been wars unless they were a [ ] race, and if [ ] the weakest people would have had recourse to works of defence; and those would have been constructed, according to the nature of the arms then in use, with the spade or some similar implement.

by throwing up the earth and forming parapets with or without ditches, as the easiest method.

To suppose them built for other purposes would be as improbable as ~~to suppose~~ that the wall of Clina & the numerous works found in Mexico, at its Conquest by Cortes, was not built for the purposes of ~~peace~~ defence.

At the close of the Report is a Glossary of Geological Terms, from Lyell's Geology & other sources. A few extracts follow.

Anticlinal. An anticlinal ~~artificial~~ ridge or axis is where the strata along a line dip ~~erease~~ counterclockwise, like the sides of the roof of a house.

Carboniferous. Coal bearing rocks

Cretaceous. Belonging to the chalk formation.

Dolomite. A magnesian Lime stone belonging to the primary class. It is usually granular in its structure and of a friable texture.

Eocene The strata deposited during the oldest of the tertiary epochs, as for Example, the Paris Bason.

Exuvia In Geology, fossil remains

Fossiliferous Containing organic remains.

Lauustrine. Belonging to a Lake,; as laustrine deposits

Littoral. Belonging to the Shore

Mollusca Mollusous animals, such as shell fish, which devoid of bones, have soft bodies.

Oolite A lime stone, composed of rounded particles like the [ ] or eggs of fishes

Palaeontology A science which treats of fossil remains

Philoscene. The upper or more recent tertiary strata; as older and never Pliocene rocks. Miocene between this & Eocene

Saurians Animals belonging to the Lizard tribes.

Sedimentary Rocks. formed by their materials having been thrown down from a state of suspension, or solution in water

Shingle. The loose water worn gravel and pebbles on shores and coasts

Silt The more comminuted sand & earth, which is transported by running water.

Syndinal line and syndinal axis. When the strata dip downward in opposite directions, like the sides of a gutter.

Zoophytes Coral sponges and other aquatic animals called to them.

Matrix The mineral mass in which a/the simple mineral is imbedded is called its matrix, or [ ]

Saturday 15. Morn foggy and frosty deposits on trees & buildings  
Sun soon out wind south very fine day.

Sunday 16 Fair morn wind North cold morn.  
and fine day.

Monday 17. Fair morn & cold wind south west  
Day cold at evening cloudy

Tuesday 18 Morn Cloudy Wind North Last  
night snow fell about 3 inches. Previously the  
ground had been bare for many days. Cloudy day  
most of the time

A.D. Jone's Illinois and the West. With a Township map,  
Containing the latest Surveys and Improvements- 1 Vol  
12 mo 256 pages in 1838. I have just perused the work, and  
find in it considerable information concerning Illinois:  
but one well acquainted with the works of Peak, Mitch  
el & others, will find little in it that is new. The work is  
deficient in descriptions of towns; the map is a copy {—} of  
that found in Mitchel's Illinois in 1837 & 1838, which  
work the writer is disposed to represent as inaccurate, though  
it appears he has fully [ ] himself of its statements.  
He is a Bostonian- His route from that place was  
by N York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, and down the Ohio



to Cincinnati; there by the Ohio & up the Mississippi to St Louis and thence up the last & Illinois, and over land to Rock River, when he and others located a town named Como on the right bank below Dixonville. He returned by Chicago & the Lakes to Buffalo, thence to Albany and down the Hudson to N York, from which he returned to Boston by the sound and railway. Is he to be credited ~~believed~~ when he says, "I am inclined to believe that a more salubrious climate does not exist in the United States than Illinois"; ~~and~~ that "The most crystal waters of the Green Mountains do not exceed the limpid clear, cool, delicious waters of Illinois?" and that ~~He says~~ "I have not passed a drop of disagreeable water through my lips since I entered the State." (pages 97 & 99).

Mr. Jones is very sparing of dates; but it appears he was at Fremont July 1, 1838, and proceeded thence to Rock River, of course he must have been in the State when the great sickness prevailed, which commenced in August, & spread over the western Country. Indeed, he says, in passing by a cabin near Illinois River we were hailed by a feeble voice from a pale emaciated woman, who told us she was the only well person in the family; that they were all down with the fever. She wished us to call on the doctor & send him to their aid. But he means perhaps to confine the fever to Illinois River, which is notoriously false. At

At no period since the commencement of the settlement of Illinois by eastern immigrants, has been a more severe epidemic ~~endemic~~ than in August September and October of 1838 throughout the States of Indiana, Illinois, Missouri & Michagan, as must have been known to Mr Jones. Nor was it confined to the River settlements. Indeed it was so severe that the Engineers on some of the rail ways and the Illinois canal, were forced to suspend their works, even on the dry prairies. My son informed me that he led out 30 men to work on one of his rail ways, and within a few days, 29 of them were taken down ~~by~~ with fever. Does Mr Jones believe his Book will obtain [    ] by suppressing this information? If the sickness “Lest man suspect your tale untrue  
Keep probability in view.  
The Trav’ler leaping o’er those bounds,  
The credit of his Book confounds.”<sup>5</sup>  
Mr. Jones made his tour with the design of corrected the “various & contradictory reports” of Illinois, which are circulated in New England; and “I feel (says he) that I can confidently rely on my little book’s being received as, at least, a correct and impartial directory.” Let the public judge how far his “directory” is a true ~~standard~~ Guide!

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<sup>5</sup> John Gay, *Fable XVIII* “The Painter Who Pleased No Body and Every Body.”

News paper accounts state that a militia force is at Harrisburg in Penn. and that several of the leaders of the mob have been arrested by civil Authority. Genl Paterson of Philadelphia commands the troops. But the difficulty in the Legislature is not settled. at the last accounts. The troops, I presume, are not intended to interfere with the proceedings of the Legislature, but to guard them against a mob, and it is hoped the friends of the law will be able to do this effectively, and show parties that their only battle grounds are at the ballot boxes.

Wednesday 19 Morn cloudy Wind NW. and air moderate. Day partially cloudy.

#### Animal magnetism

Mr Poyen the lecturer on this art has been performing at Northampton & Greenfield, with his Miss Gleason. An "Eyewitness" has published what he saw at Northampton, and the Editors of the Greenfield paper what was seen at Greenfield. The Northampton exploits appear the most wonderful of the two places; Such as opening & shutting of the eyes of the somnambulist, lifting her hand to her shoulder, touching the end of her nose with her finger & all at the will of the magnetizer. The feats performed were

puzzling to the spectators, and some were converted  
 All that has been said amounts to this: That things were  
 performed that the spectators could not explain. How often  
 have I seen things performed by Potter (the slight of hand  
 performer) which I could not explain, and which appeared  
 miraculous; but who believed them to be miracles. In all  
 cases of this kind, this question presents, Which is most likely,  
that the thing was actually performed is a miracle, or that there was is deception  
in the operation. Every natural philosopher ~~be~~ will say  
 the latter. That a person can convey his thoughts to another  
 who is asleep, by merely willing them, is not to be believed.  
 Let appearances be what they may. The impression  
 that there is deception will overcome all belief in the reality  
 Thus should I think I saw a 24<sup>th</sup> iron ball rise into  
 the atmosphere, without the application of any force,  
 what would be the conclusion? Most clearly that I  
 was somehow deceived, however strong I might be in  
 the impression that I saw it. The probability that it was  
 an optical delusion would be much stronger than that  
 it was a reality. Instead of animal magnetism as applicable  
 to the pretended science, the term animal delusion would  
 be more appropriate. Part

Part of the performance at Northampton was the following. Mr Payen requested Mr A to put Miss Gleason into the magnetic sleep. Mr A had once and only once before effected this. Mr B & C then wrote on a piece of paper Cause her by a mental effort only to open her eyes- to close them again to lift her hand to her shoulder. Mr A took his seat before Miss Gleason & with his mouth dosed & lips compressed, without any visible sign or motion willed her to open her eyes- it was done;- to shut them again it was done;- to lift her hands to her shoulder it was done, where it remained until he willed her to put it down again will her to put her hand on the top of her head. Mr A willed it, and it was done. Will her to touch the end of her nose with her finger. A willed it, and it was done: other things of a similar hand were performed. During the exercise Mr Poyen was in a remote part of the room, and did not see any of the questions written, or the slips of paper.

Queries 1. Was Miss Gleason asleep? There is no proof of it, and we have a right to say she was awake, and know some thing of what was to be required of her. She may have seen what was in process. 2. Is it certain that Mr. A did not by

some hidden sign, communicate to Miss G what was required of her? 3. If Mr A made no sign to Miss G. is it certain that he did not make it to Mr Poyen, in the “Remote” part of the room, and by him was communicated to Miss G? 4. Difficult as it may be to conceive how signals could be privately made to Miss G. is it not more likely they were made, than that Mr. A’s mental command should be communicated to Miss G and understood by her? 5 The “Eye Witness” may be honest in his statements; but ~~which is the 5<sup>th</sup> most likely~~ is it not more likely that he was deceived, or he misconceived than that the things of which he gives an account actually took place?

In deciding these queries we must rely on probability; and ~~where~~ the strongest is found, is to be regarded ~~we must as sent to it~~ as the safest. In some of Potter’s performances, I have seen things apparently done, to which I should not have hesitated to have sworn to, in a Court of Justice, were I not persuaded they were contrary to the laws of nature, and therefore, that I was deceived. Belief may be strong yet without foundation, But intrusted on Mathematical axioms, as that  $1+1=2$ ; that the whole of a thing is = to its parts, cannot be doubted by a sound mind. ~~But~~ all testimony of witnesses is but probability. The probability may

be so strong as to produce belief; but at the same time the belief may be wrong. Not so with propositions capable of mathematical demonstrations: as that the angles of a triangle are  $=180$  degrees. Here the proof is so strong that the testimony of all mankind to the contrary, would not shake the mathematician's belief conclusion.

Thursday 20. Day fair wind west and cold.

Friday 21 Cloudy & fair alternately Wind NW but nearly calm.

Book of Niagara Falls By Horatio A Parsons [—] pp. 112 with a map of the Falls. 1 Vol. 12m. pp 112. Buffalo 1838.

A pretty full description, and useful for all visitants.

The descriptions are somewhat partial. A description is given from Father Hennipin, who saw the falls in 1678, in the month of December, who makes the fall 600 feet. His description is otherwise good. On the Canada side a place is laid out called the City of the Falls. Another called Coliftan where is a splendid hall of upwards of 60 rooms. The Country at and about the falls is represented as one of the most healthy places in the U States. Lat.  $43^{\circ}--6'$  North.

Saturday 22 Cloudy & snowy morn Breeze from North snow at night fall about 2 inches. Air moderate.

Sunday 23 Brisk fall of snow in the morn nearly calm, Clear about noon & snow about 3 inches West breeze and blustery in afternoon, drifting the snow

Monday 24 Morn fair wind NW. Day fair

Tuesday 25 Morn fair and cold wind small at S.

Mr. C.O. Boutelle arrived last night on his way to Boston, having been obliged to quit the Surveys to the west by the snow which has fallen; Mr. Borden and the other assistants have returned to Boston. The correction of the town surveys in Berkshire, will enable Mr Borden to delineate that section the State without further surveys. Mr B has with him a new Mathematical author which Mr Borden procured from England, entitled Mathematical and Astronomical Tables, for the use of Students in Mathematics, Practical Astronomies, Surveyors, Engineers and Navigators; Preceded by An Introduction, Containing the Construction of Logarithmic and Trigonometrical Tables, Planes & Spherical Trigonometry This application to Navigation, Astronomy, surveying and Geoditital operations with an Explanation of the Tables, Illustrated by numerous problems & examples. 2d Edition newly enlarged & unproved by William Galbraith



M.A. Teacher of Mathematics, Edinburgh, 1 Vol.  
8 vo. pp. 428. published at Edinburgh 1834.

From a short inspection I think it an excellent work besides a great number of formulae it contains a large No of useful tables (75) some of which are new.

Under the section on Surveying the author says,  
“It would exceed our present limits to describe all these instruments as well as some others, which may, however appear perhaps in a work proposed with that view”  
Here I conclude he has it in contemplation to write a separate treatise on Land Surveying.

The Author is preparing for publication a Short but comprehensive Treatise on mathematical and astronomical Instruments; in which the principles of those most generally useful will be clearly explained, and their application to practice fully illustrated. 1 Vol. 8 vo. Such a work is wanted, and I think Mr Galbraith is prepared to execute it to ~~the~~ public satisfaction.

The Tables in Mr Galbraith’s work are printed with good type on good paper and are very distinct; and he treats pretty fully on Geodesic surveying, quoting some times from Hutton.

Wednesday

Wednesday 26 Cloudy morn. Sun out at 10 A.M. Wind N.W. Most of the day fair & pleasant.

Last evening Mr. Poyen the Animal magnetizer promised us a lecture on his art, and an exhibition of his feats, at our tavern; a number resorted to the place full of expectation to behold the wonderful, but from some cause he refused to perform. His pretence was that the number was insufficient, of course I returned home without a conversion. In his room I saw a number of Authors on the subject, some in French, others pamphlets, containing accounts of exhibitions in this Country.

I am informed that some of the Clergy in this quarter are believers in the pretended service ~~system~~. Is this wonderful? when we see these men converts to systems of divinity equally improbable; systems which cloud the mind, as unfit it for belief in any thing ~~that is~~ mysterious provided it be connected with what they call working of the spirit. Men who can subscribe to the five points of Calvin, would very readily believe in animal magnetism or almost any other occult absurdity. Where the balance wheel of science has no place in a certain machine, they run at random & confusion follows. If

If among our Clergy who profess to have thrown off some of the corruptions which have crept into Christianity ~~some~~ a few are forced converts to their occult science, if it deserves that name, it is a question how far they are removed from a credibility that ~~would~~ leads to the belief of the doctrine of the trinity, and the pretended spiritual influence, seen at Methodist camp meetings.

A sensible writer says "That spurious philosophy, which signalizes itself by the love of paradox more than by the love of truth, and which aims rather at puzzling than instructing, is held in deserved contempt by the man of common sense, as instead of exalting the faculties, by sharpening them for discovery, it sinks its infatuated votaries below the level of the vulgar; and instead of extending the fields of knowledge, widens the boundaries of ignorance."

A man who lays aside his reason and takes things upon trust, may be made to believe almost anything; but not so with the well balanced natural philosopher. "No reasoning, however spurious, will induce him to receive as true what appears incongruous or cannot be recommended by demonstration or analogy." The pretensions of this art I think will not long continue among our enlightened people.

History and Topography of the U States of N America

By John Howard Hinton AM. A new and improved edition, with additions and corrections By Samuel L. Knapp Illustrated with numerous engravings 2 Vols 4to, printed at Boston by Samuel Walker 1834.

The English edition of this work I had seen among the Books of my son Arthur at Boston, and was much pleased with it, especially the plates, which were numerous and elegant. Mr Knapp has improved it by the addition of numerous notes, though, I believe, omitted some of the maps which perhaps were not so valuable as are now found in America. The plates in the present edition are elegant. but reduced in number.

In page 264 Vol. 1 Mr Knapp has inserted a note describing Burgoyne's position at Bemis Heights, the same I furnished him in 1825, and was inserted in the march No of his Boston Monthly Magazine 1826. The note contains all the press errors I have pointed out in my sketch Book No 5 page 85, as printed in the magazine. These errors I very much regret. Should another edition of Hinton be published I hope they may be corrected.

Mr. Knapp has given a detailed account of the Massacre of

Miss Jane McCrea, page 258, Vol. 1. As I have critically examined the ground at Fort Edward, where she was killed, and have several accounts of the affair from officers & soldiers who were on the ground at the time, one of whom saw the Indians take the unfortunate lady from her horse, and assisted in taking her body from the bushes where she was left by the Indians. I am compelled to say Mr Knapps account of this affair is far from a true state of facts. In a word I must say, I have never met with one so full of errors. In my manuscript account of Burgoynes Campaign, I have given an account of the affair, which I will venture to say is correct. See pages 38, 39, 40 & 41. The work of Henton is patented by the printer and publisher, Samuel Walker, in the District Clerks Office at Boston. It is an elegant work.

Thursday 27 Morn fair wind N. a light breeze.  
the day fair throughout and pretty cold.

Friday 28 Fair morn Very cold wind small  
from SW. Clear day throughout. River well frozen above Stebbin's dam, and is improved by an our wood sleddins.

Saturday 29. Snowy morn Wind SW. Sun out  
at noon & new snow 2 or 3 inches. Most of the afternoon  
the sky overcast.

Sunday 30 Fair morn wind south & cold;

the

the day alternately cloudy & fair and pretty cold.

Monday 31. Morn fair & very colold Wind NW Morning 6 or 7 below zero. The day fair, clear sun and cold. This day closes the year 1838, and commences my 73d year. In my journal for the past year I have noticed the weather for each day, but without great minuteness; and also the most striking events that have occurred, with such remarks as presented to my mind. They are first thoughts and written without much care or attention to style, or even orthography. They may be of little use hereafter; but if so, then, have afforded me employment in my leisure hours, and enabled me to keep dates when an almanac was not at hand.

During the latter part of the year I have written a small work under the following title Recollections of Times and Things of my Early Life: With a sketch of recent Improvements, and Remarks upon the principles of our Government on Parties and on our present Political condition. The work is crude and requires the smoothing plane and probably some corrections. The political part I am aware, will not exactly suit any party; nor was

it written for that purpose. My design is to remove unfavorable opinions which some have imbibed of a Republican Government from its turbulent character and to show the great importance of a close adherence to our federal constitution, as the palladium of our liberty. It has appeared to me that our alarms respecting the administration of our federal government are great than they need to be;- that let who may be elected President parties will exist of different political sentiments; but that so long as the great body of the people adhere to the constitution, there can be little danger of its destruction, by designing demagogues without a strong military force; and finally that war with such a favor, the united States government would not be able to make quiet inroads upon the liberties of the people, so long as the State governments hold their present power. The greatest danger of a disunion, appears to me to be from a combination of a number of contiguous states in opposition to the laws of Congress. In such a case the remaining part of the Union might not be able to coerce them. It is then the policy of the United States ~~government~~ so to administer the government that it shall be for the interest of each state to adhere to the Union. This it appears to me to be the only sure ligament of the Union.

In

In the course of the last year there has been a great destruction of lives from the bursting of boilers of steam boats; and it is feared that with all the precautions that can be used they will be very liable to these dreadful disasters. Steam boats are of the great est importance on our western waters, and should ~~they contin~~  
~~ue~~ these disasters continue they may be laid aside as unsafe conveyances, and the consequences would be to lower the value of the lands on those waters, and very much retard their settlement. An Engineer whom I have consulted, gives it as his opinion, that boats ~~they~~ may be so constructed as to render them safe, of which however I have some doubts.

The uncommon heat of the last summer has produced much sickness in the western states, and will probably retard the streams of emigration from New England. People here will rather remain in poverty than ~~to~~ seek Riches at the expence of their lives. The western country, about our Latitude, may at length become healthy; but perhaps not within 20 or 30 years, or until it is thoroughly cultivated.

New England is a healthy country, but unfavorable to the farmer from the length and severity of its winters, which require too much fuel and fodder; and its want of fossil coal is another serious difficulty, which will be felt after our ligneous fuel is exhausted.



Among the occurrences of the past year the successful passage of the Atlantic Ocean by steam ships, and the emancipation of the slaves in the British West India islands, are worthy of notice. Since the arrival of the two first ships from England, in April last, several other voyages have been made; their usual time about 14 or 15 days, more or less as the winds retard or accelerate them. If alterations ~~improvements~~ have been made in their engines, such as to render them safe it is an important improvement. But I am not without fears that they may occasionally fail. It is said the boilers are, by some contrivance, more safe than in the first invented boats; but if this be true, it is certain that an equal ~~prodigious~~ force is very great, there must be danger of the failure of some part of the machinery.

Of the success of the emancipation of the Slaves in the West Indies I have little. That it is favorable I infer from the fact that so little is said in our papers about it. Were it otherwise those of the southern states ~~papers~~ would be filled with its failure. The question in relation to the mental faculties of the blacks may be decided.

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Note The journal of the weather commences with this number and continues through it. By finding the month at the top of a page, the day of the week and month will be found, with a short notice of the weather. The day is underscored